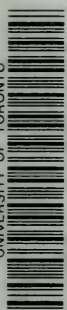


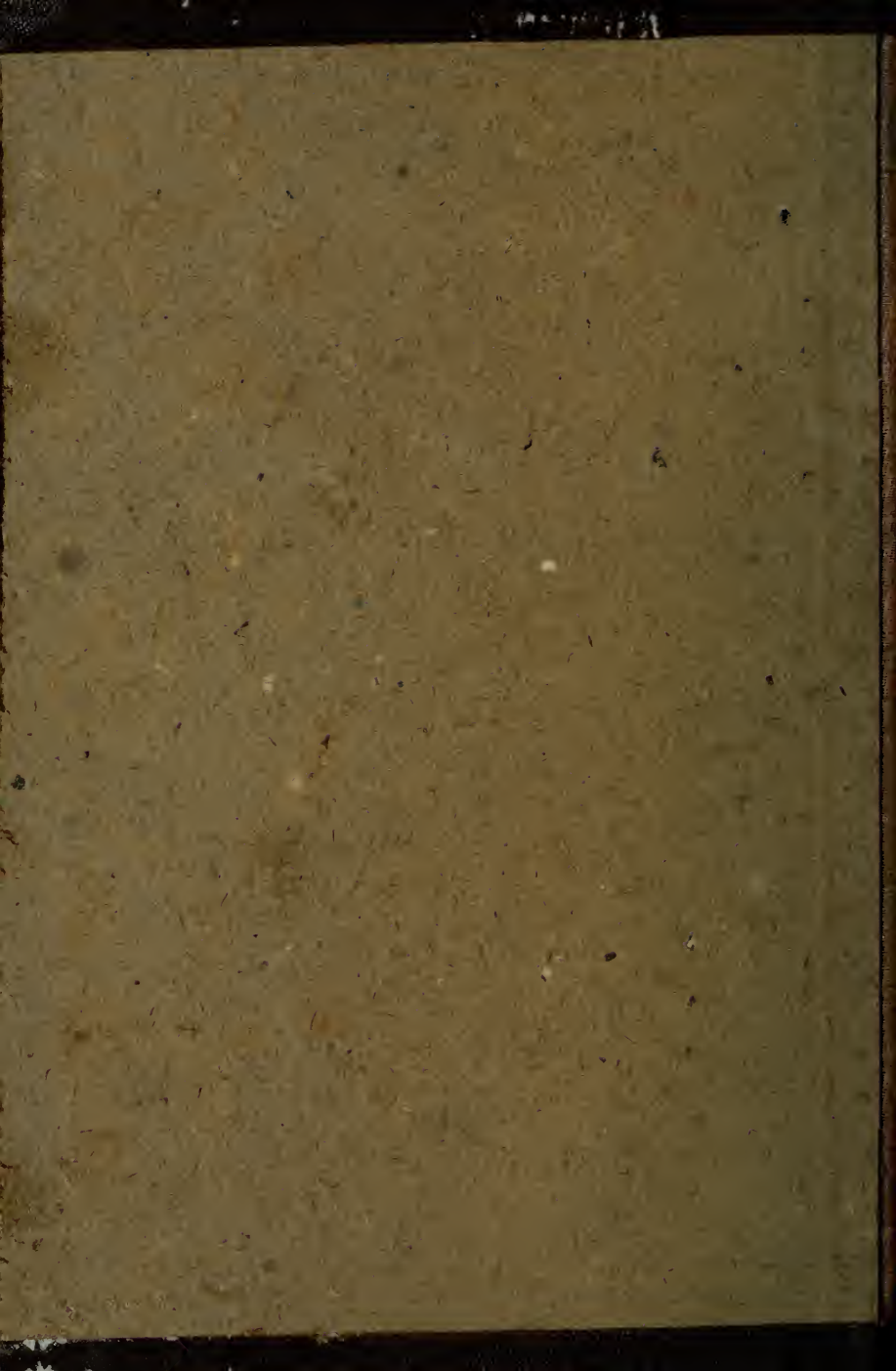
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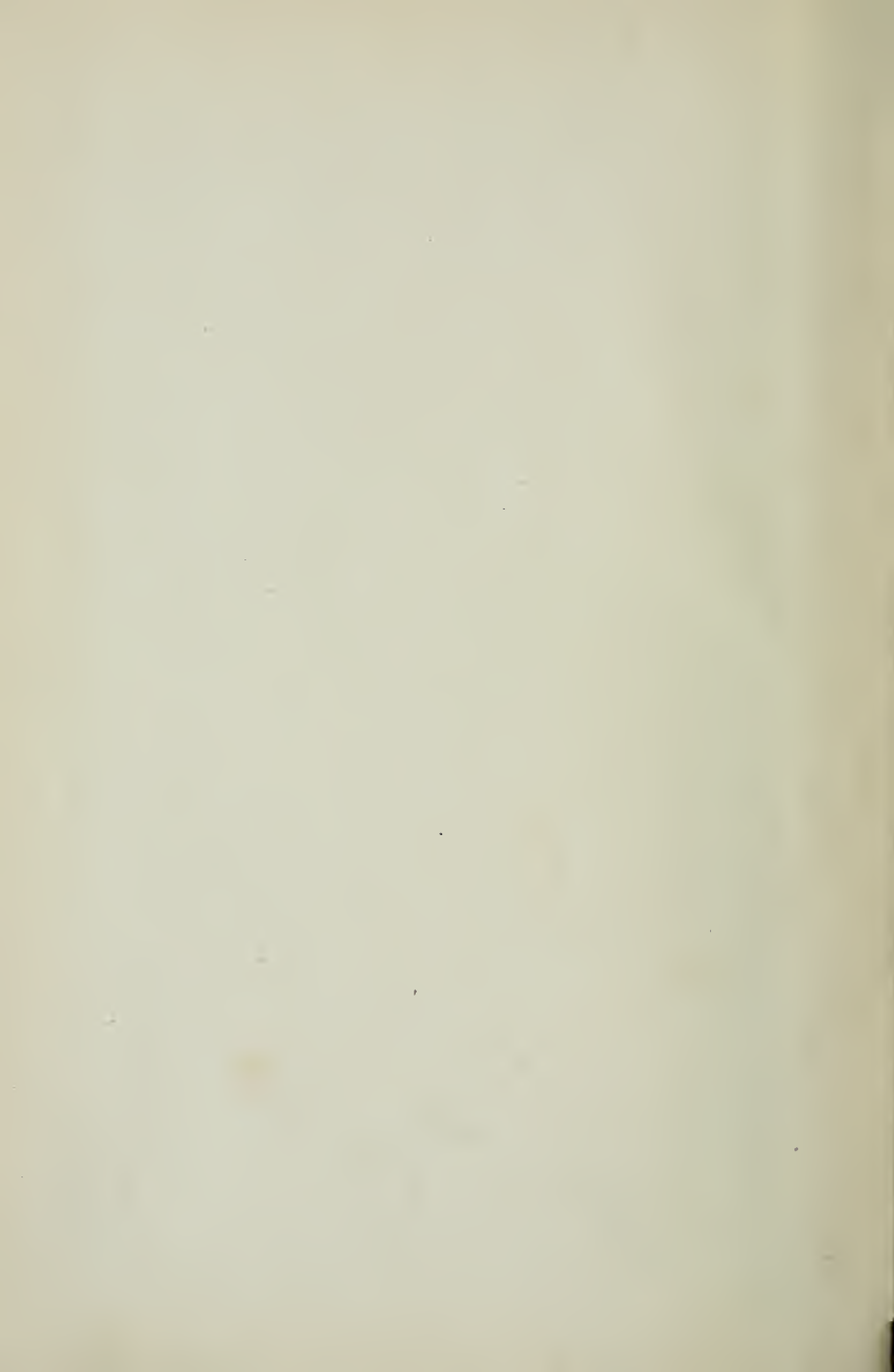
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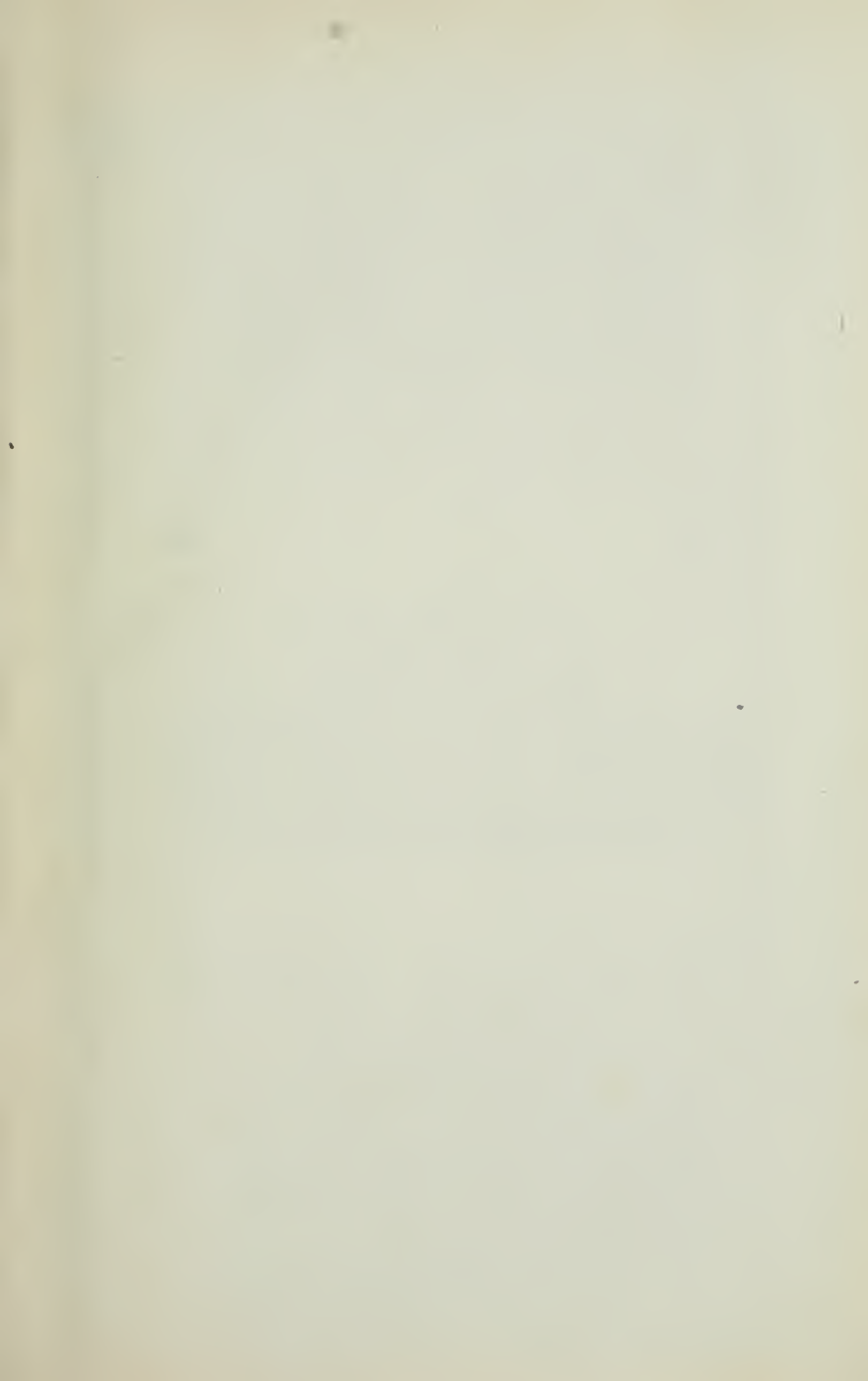
ITHACA GORGE
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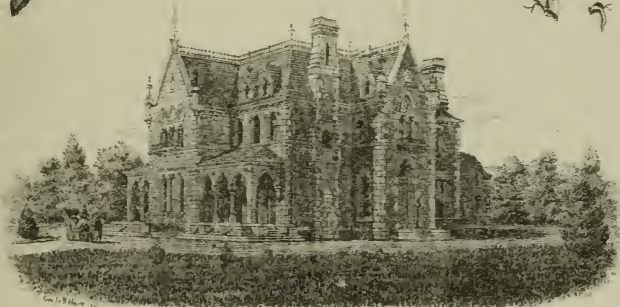


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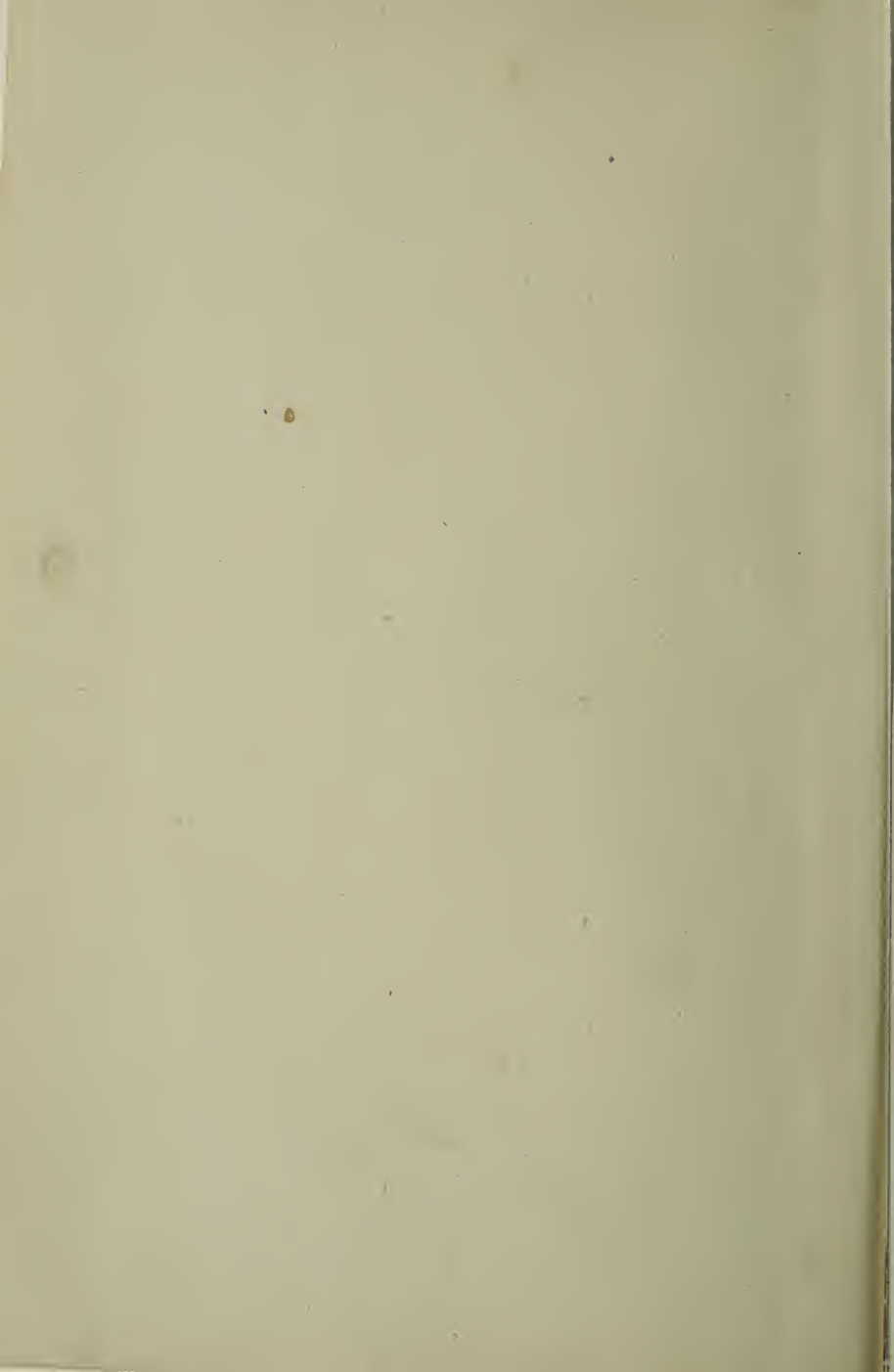


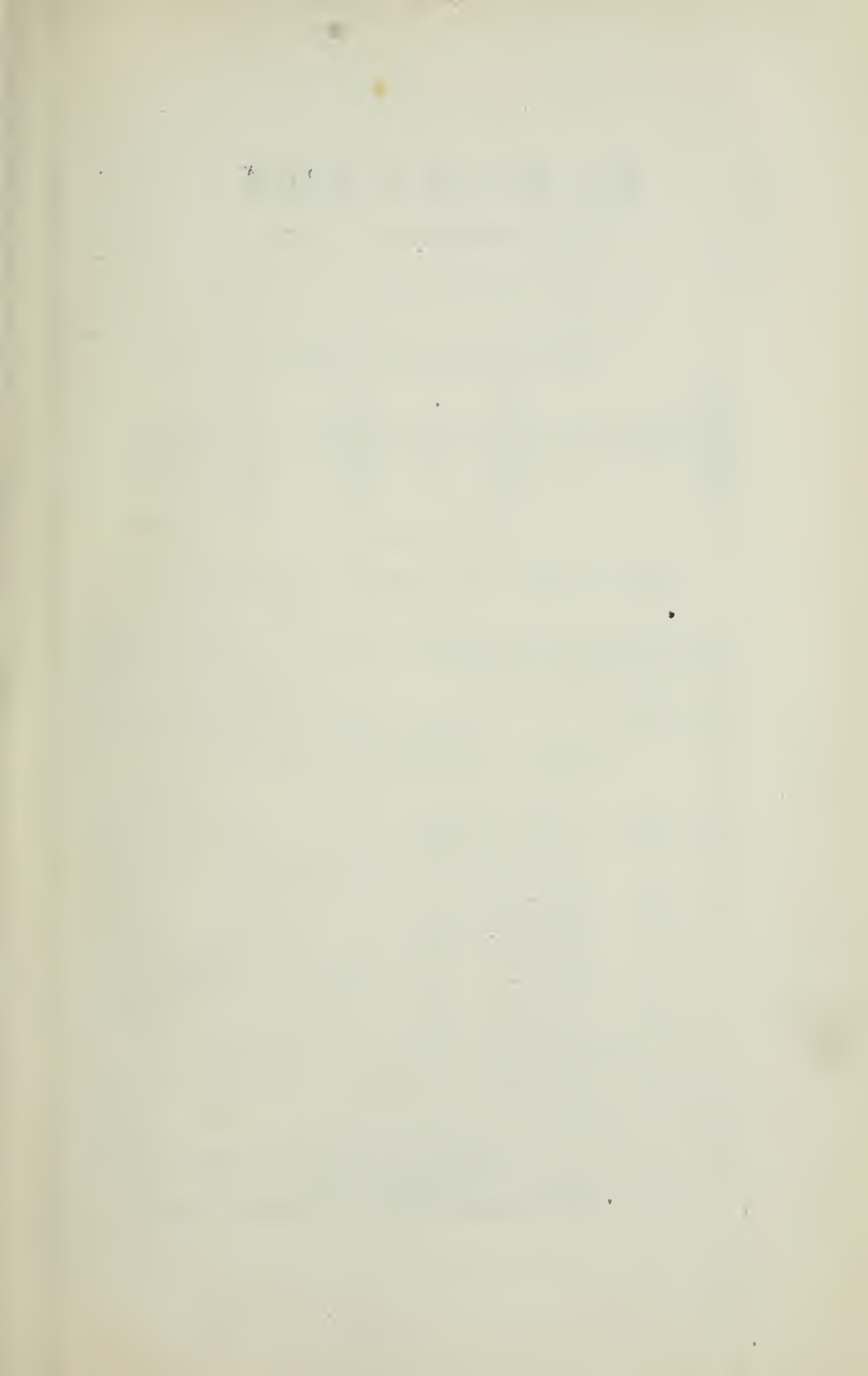
RESIDENCE of HON EZRA CORNELL, ITHACA N.Y.

Cornell University



LOWER LODGE, ITHACA, N.Y.





G. F. GATES,

WATKINS, SCHUYLER CO., N. Y.

STEREOGRAPHS OF

Watkins & Havana Glen Scenery,

Also of all Points in

THE FAMOUS ITHACA GORGE,

*The finest scenes around the beautiful Cayuga Lake,
Cornell University, &c., &c.*

TABLE OF DISTANCES :

	Miles.
From Ithaca to Cayuga via Lake,	40
" " " via Cay. Lake R. R.,	40
" " Geneva, via Ithaca & Gen. R. R.	40
" " Sodus Bay, " "	72
" " Rochester, " " N. Y. C.	91
" " Auburn, via Utica, I. & E., and S. C. R. R.	42
" " Syracuse, " " Bing. & S. R. R.	59
" " Utica, via Utica, I. & E. R. R.. . . .	120
" " Elmira, " " "	42
" " Waverly, via Ithaca & Athens R. R.	35
" " Philadelphia, via I. & A. and L. V. R. R.	285
" " New York, " " "	317
" " " via Erie Railway,	272
" " " via Cay. Lake and N. Y. C. R. R.	367
" " Owego, via Del., Lack. and West. R. R.	34
" " Binghamton, via D., L. & W. and Erie R'y,	56

SKETCH MAP of the STATE of NEW YORK.

Showing Ithaca and its Rail Road
Connections.

Geo. J. B. Hart, Del.





ILLUSTRATED
GUIDE BOOK

OF THE

ITHACA GORGE,

AND

ITS SURROUNDINGS.

EDITED AND COMPILED BY
WILLIAM G. JOHNSON.

ITHACA, N. Y. :
ANDRUS, McCHAIN & LYONS,
1873.

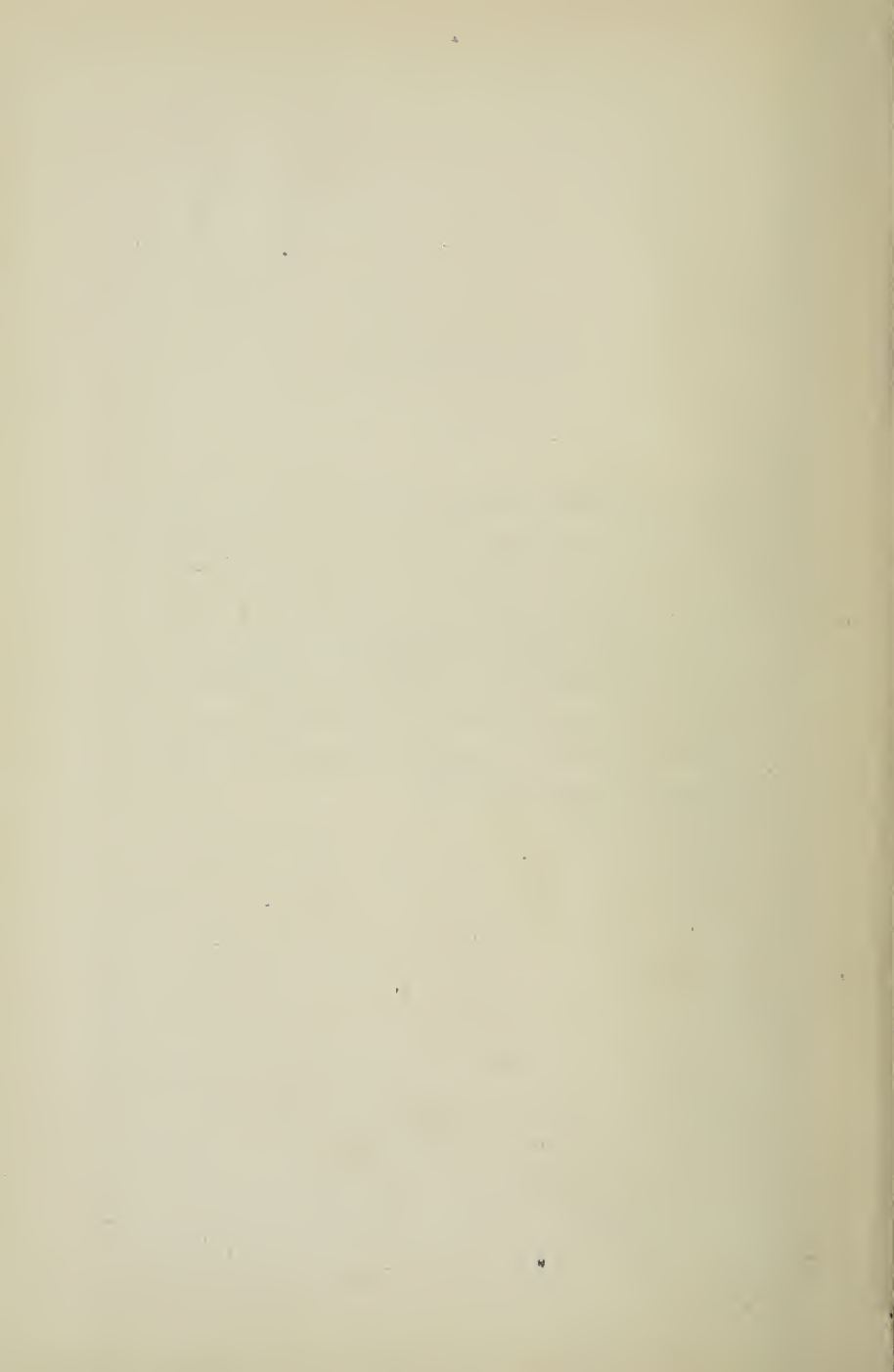
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P R E F A C E .

THE very commanding position that Ithaca is assuming as a business and literary centre, added to her wonderful natural surroundings, and her very central position in the great State of New York, is bringing a constantly increasing stream of tourists to her doors, and as in the ITHACA GORGE we find a concentration of all the best features of this beautiful section of the Lake country, a demand has arisen for a Guide to the Ithaca Gorge, and this crude work has been compiled to meet this want, hoping at no far distant day to furnish the public with a more complete work.

Ithaca, Jan. 1, 1873.



ITHACA.

A CENTRE OF ROMANTIC SCENERY.

Within ten miles of the Ithaca Post Office there are one hundred and fifty waterfalls.

These are found in dark gorges and in beautiful glens. All of them are accessible, and each one possesses peculiar features of interest in connection with its surroundings, while many of them have special characteristics which independent of the rest attract visitors and captivate them by the beauties and grandeur presented. It has been but recently that these waterfalls and these rocky ravines have been brought to the attention of the public. Trenton Falls, Watkins Glen, Niagara and Portage, have become known throughout the State.

Ithaca Falls "blushed unseen" till a few years ago, though attention was called to them thirty years ago, by Solomon Southwick, long before he pointed out the spot now occupied by the Catskill Mountain House, as commanding the finest view known of the beautiful valley of the Hudson, and more recently when their merits were heralded by the first publication in their behalf by Mr. Spencer, of Ithaca.

Since that time they have grown in importance, and now bid fair to rival all other like attractions in the country. We say this advisedly, for in Taghanic we have the highest fall in the State, in Fall Creek Gorge

we have the largest number of grand falls in the same distance, in the State, the water falling four hundred feet in the distance of one mile along the north bounds of Cornell University ; in Lick Brook we have the most delicacy combined with the most striking wildness and solemnity, while Buttermilk, Cascadilla, Burdick's and Shurger's present attractions differing somewhat in character, yet not the less inferior. Niagara, of course, has no rival in the world, but as far as we have read and visited, we are unable to call to mind any locality which embraces such water, rock and forest scenery as do these two hundred water-falls of Tompkins County.

The town itself is built in the broad valley at the head of Cayuga Lake, and while there are no distinctive features of beauty, save in the noble trees that line all the streets, yet as a whole it is a beautiful place.

While there are no broad streets or avenues, yet there are no narrow ones and as they cross each other at right angles, and as there are hills all around the town, save to the north, the effect in looking from the street crossings in almost any direction is picturesque in the extreme.

The want of broad and beautiful avenues is being supplied in the Titus addition to the town and which promises to be the handsomest part of it, in fact there is nothing in the place in the street line that has so much of promise in it as, "Titus Avenue," which starts from the South end of Cayuga street, and, forming a crescent, extends nearly to the west side of the valley, having the Six Mile Creek on the south side, bordered with willows the entire distance, while on the north side young elms give promise of a magnificent future.

To illustrate how rapidly this entire region has been transformed, three years ago, where now the extensive establishment of J. B. Sprague stands, was an open cow pasture.

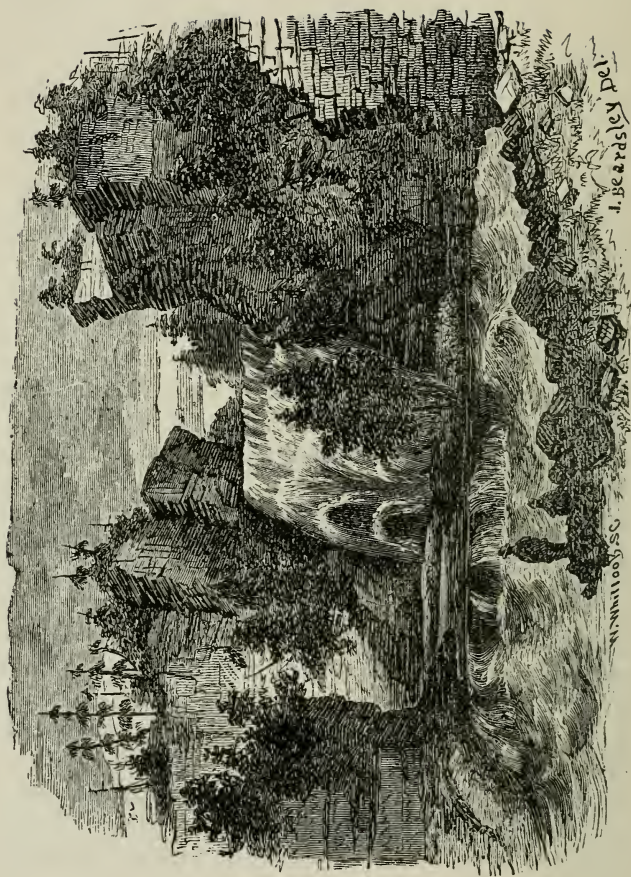
THE ITHACA GORGE.

Beautiful as are the other attractions of Tompkins County, the Gorge of Fall Creek has always reigned supreme on many accounts, first of which is its nearness to the town, or as the *New York World*, of June 19th, 1872, has it, "The Gorge is the strange, hidden enjoyment of a leaf out of Switzerland, almost in the streets of the town." 2d. There is no other stream in the State that in the same distance has so many grand falls upon it. 3d. There is no circuit of three miles in the State, where the tourists comes in contact with so much of interest in the way of rock and water scenery, and the richness of agricultural, architectural and literary development. The beauty and grandeur of the Gorge has always been admitted, but up to within the last four years it has been practically impassable, on account of great natural difficulties, but energy, gunpowder and the shovel and pick, have all combined to do their work, and the public are the judges as to whether it has been done well.

Starting from the north end of the iron bridge at Aurora street, we enter the Gorge by a very pretty Lodge where refreshments are dispensed, and a short but rapid rise brings us to

"THE REST,"

a broad terrace, on which a small aviary has been con-



ITHACA FALL IN ITHACA GORGE.

structed, and which is filled with a small, but choice collection of birds, and from which we command a delightful view of the town and valley in one direction, and of the beautiful Ithaca Fall, in the other. Thence the walk follows the face of the almost perpendicular mountain side, about one-half way up from the bed of the stream. After various windings and curvings, you come upon the second full view of Ithaca Fall, and find yourself standing on

“THE POINT OF ROCKS,”

with the stream fifty feet below, and the cliffs reaching a hundred feet above, while immediately behind you a rocky projection invites you to lean against it, and suggests the appropriateness of the name given to the spot. The walk thence is through surroundings of rare beauty. The cliffs rise above you gray and frowning.

“THE BASIN”

at the foot of Ithaca Fall, sparkles in the sunlight or eddies round fierce and angry, throwing up a column of spray in time of high water, which moistens the rocks and gives growth to a thick covering of ferns and grasses on either side. The path leads you around a vast amphitheatre, thickly shaded at all times of day. Through the trees you catch glimpses of the water as it bounds down the Fall, white and silvery in low water, but black, angry and awful when high. About half-way around this amphitheatre a superb profile view of Ithaca Fall is presented. The tall linden and elms, surrounding the opening through which you look, form a frame for the picture, and the spot is named

"THE PICTURE FRAME."

Thus far you have done no climbing, and have not noticed the distance, so enchanting has been the scenery about you. Take this walk on a summer morning, when the first sunlight comes over the cliffs, gilding the upper foliage, and lighting up the chasm to your right, and your thought will irresistibly "turn from Nature up to Nature's God." By a rock stair-case of about twenty stairs we arrive at

"THE PLATEAU."

Having reached the latter you are on a level with the brink of Ithaca Fall, and a few steps across the shady plot brings you to the edge of the Fall, where you can throw your foot out into the water as it starts on its fearful plunge. "The Basin" is one hundred and fifty feet below, while on all sides you are surrounded with cliffs towering seventy-five and one hundred feet above. "The Plateau" is one of the loveliest spots on the walk. It embraces near a quarter of an acre, slightly sloping, covered with a sort of moss, and thickly shaded with young hemlocks, pines, and a sprinkling of deciduous trees.

From "The Plateau" the walk continues in a semi-zig-zag course up and around

"PROMONTORY POINT,"

a spot half-way up the upper cliffs, and some thirty or forty feet directly over "The Plateau." The lookout from this point is superb. Proceeding along the naked, perpendicular cliff by a path hewn in the solid rock, and wide enough for a single pedestrian, you come to the

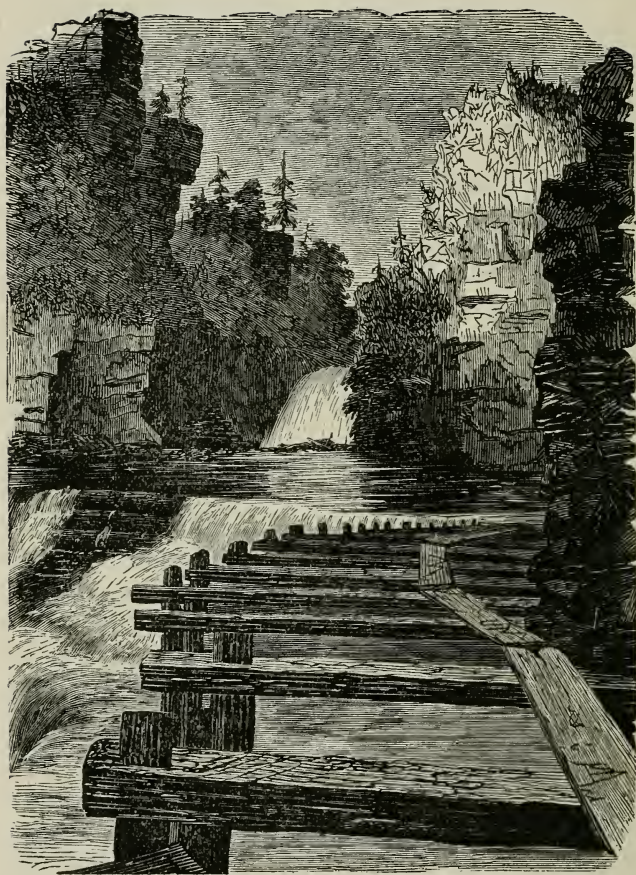
most famous spot along the tortuous route. On the 24th of August, 1869, Mr. John Johnson, a resident of Ithaca, was at work alone on this part of the path we are describing, and while prying on a bar, with his back to the chasm below, his hold slipped and he fell headlong down the precipice, the bar following him. Striking some loose dirt, he was hurled on down the steep, across the lower walk, and nearly to the foot of the "Basin," at the foot of the Fall. Before striking the first time, he descended some fifty feet, his last landing place being nearly two hundred feet from where he was at work. Strange as it may seem, no bones were broken, although his flesh was terribly lacerated. He recovered after a few weeks confinement. The spot is one of great interest to tourists, and has been appropriately named

"JOHNSON'S TUMBLE."

Thence you ascend a long stairway cut in the "living rock," and reach

"CLIFF WALK."

You breathe freely again and murmur, "out of the depths." A little further on you find yourself on the brink of a precipice three hundred feet above "The Lookout" where you started. The view from this point is most imposing. Right beneath you is the frightful chasm; before you is the valley with its silver-like streams winding through it to the Lake, and on the left and right are the walls of the Gorge. Here also you have a bird's-eye view of your winding walk hither. Keeping on



FOREST FALL IN ITHACA GORGE

"THE CLIFFS,

the walk lies along their brink, from projecting points of which you look down over a hundred feet to the bottom of the Gorge. These heights have been called

"THE PALISADES,"

from their resemblance to the banks of the lower Hudson.

"THE GROVE"

is a thicket of pines, passing through which we begin to descend again to the bottom of the Gorge. The walk thence is around a second amphitheatre, which sets back from

"FOREST FALL."

On account of the difficulty in making the path down this steep the spot has been called

"TROUBLE BAY."

Having descended you land on

"MOSS LEVEL,"

an enchanting little spot in general contour like "The Plateau." It is directly over "Forest Fall," and you can sit on the moss-covered rock, and hang your feet over the thundering cataract. From "Moss Level" you reach the

"INFERNO"

by a winding route, called the

"SPRAY PATH."

Few are inclined to go down to the "Inferno." It is a frightful, close corner, into which the water plunges over "Forest Fall," with awful fury and power. When the stream is high "The Inferno" must be visited with water-proof clothing, as the spray is dense and drenching. We scarce lose sight of "Forest Fall" when we come upon

"FOAMING FALL"

thirty feet high and very curious. The cliffs here are very beautiful, with their shrub, vine and moss adorning. On the north side a huge rock of fifteen or twenty tons, has sometime fallen from above, and lies there to suggest how quickly our frail bodies might be ground up by a similar one. From each side the water shoots into a kind of V, with the vertex up stream. From this it flies forward and downward. Just where the chamber ends at the top of the Fall is a tiny island, with trees, their roots exposed and water-worn. It is a pleasant place to sit looking at and listening to the boiling water. A few feet farther up is another and larger island. The banks are densely wooded on the north and on the south are splendid cliffs.

"ROCKY FALL,"

beyond is 55 feet high. It is wide, and curves across the stream with the more precipitous part on the south. At "Rocky Fall" tourists will note the works that supply the power for the Mechanical Department in the Sibley building of Cornell University. A Turbine wheel has been placed at the foot of the fall on the north side of

the stream, working under a head of forty-five feet. This wheel is connected with a shaft which in connection with an endless wire cable, gives motive power in the building about two hundred feet on the hill above, and also by another endless wire cable keeps in motion a gang of pumps on the south bank of the stream which forces the water of the creek up the hill the same distance, and not only this, but with force enough to send it to the top of the buildings. This is for a temporary water supply of the University, and to furnish fountains, etc., in the Park, and the surplus will be returned to the creek by a reverse pipe. Above "Rocky Fall" the Glen is again delicious. The trees hug the stream on both sides, and their fluttering leaves and swaying branches break on us beneath them. It is here called the

"SYLVAN STREAM,"

because of the dark forest which line its borders. Above "Sylvan Stream" the chasm again deepens, and you come into

"THE COLOSSEUM,"

here a good opera from Nature is on the boards, the "Anvil Chorus" rings constantly from the quick thundering blows of

"TRIPHAMMER FALLS."

This beating grows louder and louder and more distinct, till you come nearly under the falling water. You are now to ascend the cliff on the left, nearly a hundred feet high; this you do by

"THE SPIRAL STAIRS,"

you wind around inside the tower, like ascending Bun-

ker Hill Monument, or the dome of the Capitol. Having reached the upland once more, you pass into the beautiful

“TRIPHAMMER GROVE,”

which is now being fitted up in a very complete manner for tourists and pic-nic parties. The placid waters of Beebe Dam bound this beautiful grove on the east, and arrangements are making to place boats for the use of visitors on it.

All things considered, the delightful shade, the adjacent waterfalls, the

“GROUNDS OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY”

just over the creek, and the convenience of boating, we think this rare spot can scarce be excelled. Leaving the grove, we descend a rock stair case to

“POT HOLE ROCKS,”

and cross the stream by

“FLUME BRIDGE”

which spans

“FLUME FALLS.”

Just above the bridge is the artificial fall of Beebe's Dam, over which the water pours evenly.

This is the present terminus of the Gorge Walk proper ; but arrangements are making to extend it on the north bank of Beebe Dam to Free Hollow,* a very pretty manufacturing suburb of Ithaca, and about one-half a mile

* This has been accomplished.

from the Triphammer Grove ; when this is done a very beautiful section of Fall Creek, at present almost unknown to the public, will be thrown open to them, and will greatly enhance the attractions of this most charming walk. The way home is by

“SOUTH WALK,”

by which you reach the Free Hollow Road. This is a good point to have carriages meet you, and the way back to Ithaca may be by University Street, passing as we go that marvel of stone carving and durability, the new residence of Hon. Ezra Cornell, or through the grounds of Cornell University, from which some of the most extended, interesting and lovely views in New York State are to be found.

“MOFFATT’S WATERFALL.”

On the 4th of July 185-, Miss Mary Moffatt, of Etna, N. Y., in company with a few friends, were on their way to Ithaca, and stopped on the south bank of the Gorge, at a point just south and west of Triphammer Fall, and from whence a fine view of the Fall is obtained. Miss Moffatt stepped out on a flat ledge of rock, overhanging the abyss, and threw a branch of a tree over, which caught in the bushes that project from the rocks. With one hand she clung to a small twig of an adjoining tree, and with the other tried to loose the branch, when in a moment the twig broke, and over she went, head first. Her friends struck with horror, did not stop to look into this awful gulf, but started for help, which was found at the little village of Free Hollow, about one mile above. As the Gorge Path was not in being at that time, the only way of gaining the bottom of the ravine

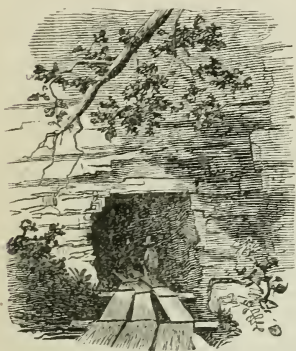
was to descend the steep bank of the stream just north of where the Sibley Building now stands, and thence up the bed of the stream. This was done and a female was found seated on a rock just below Triphammer Fall with bonnet off, and very composedly employed combing out her "nut-brown hair." As the persons that first found her were not acquainted with Miss Moffatt, (her brother and friends that were with her having exhausted their lungs and strength in their pursuit of help,) and expected to find her crushed, asked this romantic female where the woman was that fell from the cliff, when she answered that she came from above by a short cut, and that she supposed her friends missed her. It proved to be Miss Moffatt, who fell a distance of seventy-four feet perpendicularly, but fortunately landing in the water, sustained no damage save a bonnet very much "out of plumb," and the loss of one glove, and to-day she is a "loving wife and happy mother." Up to three years ago no male was courageous enough to emulate the example of this lady, when Mr. John Johnson, lower down the Gorge acted as champion for his sex, and falling down about two hundred feet, came out of the ordeal almost unharmed.

"THE TUNNEL."

No Hand Book of Ithaca would be complete, unless honorable mention were made of this work, which until lately, was quite the lion of the place. Visitors to the Gorge, if strangers, on arriving at the top of the cliff, will ask, "What is that hole in the rock?" it is the east end of the Tunnel, and in summer when the water is low, it can be reached by leaving the gorge walk at the Plateau, and crossing the stream at the top of Ithaca

Fall; but when the stream is at all up, a short trip from the entrance to the Gorge, on the south bank of the stream will bring you to it.

The object of this work was to bring the water of Fall Creek down to the little manufacturing suburb of "Fall Creek" for the use of the mills, a purpose which it serves admirably.



The work was begun in the Spring of 1830 and was finished in about six months. It was executed by the late J. S. Beebe, to whom Ithaca owes some of her best works of that period, but in his

case—as is often found—there was “a power behind the throne,” for he had in his employ a poor, energetic, but far-seeing young man, now the Hon. Ezra Cornell, who had entire charge of the work, and who in fact conceived it. At that time no blasting with gunpowder had ever been done at Ithaca but young Cornell went down on the Cayuga and Seneca canal, where work of that kind was going on, and observed the process of rock blasting, hired an Irishman who was accustomed to rock drilling, and returned in two or three days, and with the aid of five men and one thousand kegs of gunpowder in the time mentioned above he had this hole through the rock, fifteen feet wide, fifteen feet high and two hundred feet long. When the work was in progress there were three hair-breadth escapes, as twice by the premature explosion of blasts Mr. Cornell and men were just fortunate enough to escape, and once the Rev. Mr. Sears, a Baptist clergyman, and a party of ladies escaped harm from the same cause.

Higher up on this stream the Beebe Dam, built in 1836, by Mr. Beebe, but planned and executed by Mr. Cornell, still stands and will continue so to do as an illustration of his motto, "True and Firm."

Ithaca and its surroundings are so replete with associations of Ezra Cornell that many tourists will be pleased to have their attention drawn, by way of contrast to his present doings, to the home of his early married life and where all of his children were born. This will be found a few rods north of the entrance to the Gorge, a beautiful little valley, and called by the present proprietor, William G. Johnson,

"THE NOOK."

Mr. Johnson has retained the original house built by Mr. Cornell, but has added to and improved it. Mr. Cornell had his house built by contract at a cost of \$350, a great contrast to his new residence "Cornell Place," one of the very finest examples of thoroughness and superior workmanship to be found in New York State, and which though commenced four years ago, is far from completion. It is in the gothic style, situated on a commanding point of East Hill. Estimated cost when completed \$150,000.

At "The Nook" are located the "Ithaca Gorge Conservatories," Messrs. Johnson, Thomas & Co., proprietors, where are cultivated and for sale, all the choice and rare plants, flowers, shrubs and evergreens, that our advanced system of Horticulture demands.

POINTS OF INTEREST NEAR ITHACA.



ENFIELD FALLS.

To the tourist who asks "What place shall I visit first?" I can give but a general answer. Where so many objects of interest are gathered in so small an area, many things must be taken into account in deciding upon their merits. Not only their own beauties, but also accessibility, distance from town, etc., must be re-

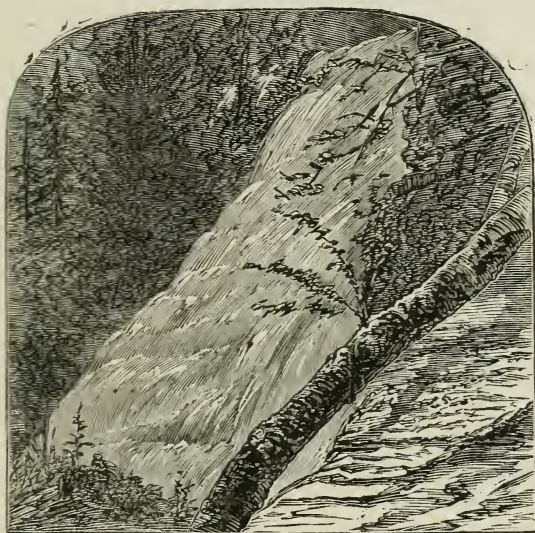
garded, and in some instances attention must be paid to the height of water when visited.



BUTTERMILK FALLS.

If our advice were asked as to the best method of seeing the most at the least outlay of time and money we should say do the work in about four days. If but one day can be allowed we would devote it to the Gorge, entering at Aurora street entrance, and so arranging as to arrive at the University a little afternoon by which time the recitations for the day are over and all sections of the buildings can be seen. This will be enough for one day, although the University ought to have that time to do it justice. The second day we would devote to "Taghganic," and to do it justice will take all of it. The third devote to Buttermilk and Lick Brook in the fore-

noon, provided you get off early, and give the afternoon to Enfield Ravine, which though a long drive over the



LICK BROOK FALLS.

hills will amply repay in the glorious views that meet the eye in every direction. The fourth devote to Ludlowville Falls including the upper leap at Shurger's, or, devote the day to Cascadilla, McKinney's and Luce's Glens, or "do" Cascadilla in the forenoon and devote the afternoon to

"GARRETT'S POINT,"

but four miles from Ithaca, and which is growing rapidly in public favor, and justly. A very short sail, not a long row, and where entertainment and refreshment will always be furnished by Mr. and Mrs. Garrett.

TAGHANIC FALLS AND RAVINE.

We have concluded to accept Prof. Clark's orthography of the name of this unequalled fall and creek, as being the simplest and most reasonable. It is written and pronounced in half a dozen different ways, but "Taghanic" (give the g an Indian guttural sound,) is the best. It is about eight miles from Ithaca by boat and about ten by carriage. If you take a carriage it will be worth your while to follow the road nearest the Lake in going and coming, instead of the more traveled one through Jacksonville. On this route we get the finest views of lake, valley and hills, and pass several cascades and glens. Turning at the mouth of Taghanic Gorge, we ascend the hill, and drive along the north bank to P. H. Thompson's Hotel, close by Taghanic Fall. This part of the drive, with its glimpses of the immense gorge, is one that will be remembered. The Hotel is in the midst of a grove, the beauty of which quite intoxicates. Resolutely turning our faces from the fall, we proceed to the stairway, in order to get our first view of the sheet from below. At the foot we find a winding path through the midst of thick bushes, which leads us to the creek, and beneath the over-towering sublimity of the south wall of rocks. Those tremendous cliffs, rising three hundred and fifty feet, their voice an eternal silence, and revealing to scientific eyes the story of the ages, ought to take from us our self-conceit. You may let your imagination dwell upon them until they become appalling. Is there not some weird, indwelling life, a kind of spiritual being, who has power to shake some of those huge projections down upon our heads? If so, may He be kind as we retire within ourselves, and walk humbly up stream to admire white Taghanic.

This is the highest and, we think, the most attractive fall in the State. The whole stream is poured 215 feet, perpendicular. The side rocks rise 145 feet higher. The centre rocks at the top of the fall protrude, curving the descent of the water. The broken appearance of the sheet has been not unaptly compared to Indian arrow heads. Beauty and sublimity are happily mingled here, and in this is its superiority to Niagara, where sublimity so predominates in the massiveness of the flow as to forbid the quiet enjoyment of beauty. The amphitheatre at Taghanic, including the fall, is indescribably magnificent, whether viewed from below or above, but especially from below. It prints a definite picture in the memory that will last, and one does not find it easy afterward to separate the fall from it. The surrounding cliffs will intrude, and properly, for they are the appropriate setting of the splendid gem.

Retracing our steps and ascending, we yield ourselves to the fascinations of the upper views, through vistas and partially screening leaves. There are tasteful rustic seats and grassy mounds where one may lounge and look and dream.

After a time we go down, down into the upper glen and try to reach the brink of the fall, but the water is too high. Here the rocks have been scooped out strangely along the edge by the current. This upper ravine, with its pretty cascades and thickly wooded banks, is charming. We follow it to the bridge most of the way along the stream-bed. On the south side, just before reaching the upper fall, are the most singular and interesting cliffs to be found in all this cliffy region. One stands out from the rest, with buttress and battlement, and the shape of a great gothic window deeply indented. The gorge here is quite narrow, and the cliffs

on both sides are about one hundred feet high. Turning a rock corner, we are in front of the Upper Fall. The water, spread out as it pours over, is drawn into an angle, and in the lower plunge becomes very rapid and noisy. The cliffs here are high, upright and seem trying to smother the stream. This upper glen is full of attractions.

We make our way up the steep side of the fall and walk back to the hotel along a path that winds among the trees of the romantic north bank.

The proprietor of said hotel is making improvements from year to year and desires to spare no pains to render this lovely spot a truly delightful resort.

The grove before mentioned is scarcely less alluring than the Gorge itself, since from seats in the same and through broad openings among the trees one gets a most enchanting view of the fair Cayuga—a picture of which one does not grow weary but to which we return on each recurring visit with ever new delight. The dryness of the air—deliciously fine-scented—renders this spot peculiarly invigorating and healthful—an invaluable retreat for the debilitated semi-invalid;—with a few books and a few congenial friends one can spend a few weeks here most agreeably.

The Ithaca and Geneva R. R. is to have a station here—about a quarter of a mile distant from the hotel—so that the tourist from any point may find ready access by land or water to this one of Nature's finest haunts—and which no true lover of Nature should fail to visit.

MINERAL SPRINGS.

This favored section of New York with all its other advantages abounds also in Mineral Springs some of

which have been quite marked in their curative properties. First among them we must place the sanitarium of Miss S. S. Nivison, M. D., and known as the "Dryden Spa Place," and which under her judicious and admirable management ranks among the first in the State. There are two springs in the grounds one with iron in solution and the other strong with sulphur. Take the high, healthy location of the place, the thorough comfort of the house, the skill of Miss Nivison and the air of refinement that pervades all part of this establishment we place it second to none. Its situation is admirable, nine miles from Ithaca, a short half mile from Dryden, a very pleasant town on the Southern Central R. R., and but three miles from Leeville Junction where the Utica, Ithaca and Elmira R. R., crosses the Southern Central R. R.

Under we place the Spencer Spas, situated near the Ithaca & Athens R. R., where there are strong sulphur springs, and which are growing in popularity.

At Slaterville are the Magnetic Springs, discovered about two years ago, and which are rapidly growing in favor as agents in the cure of paralytic and rheumatic diseases, and many invalids have been drawn to them by their fame.

THE CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

FOUNDATION.

The existence of the Cornell University is due to the combined bounty of the United States Government and the Honorable Ezra Cornell, of Ithaca. On the second of July, 1862, the United States Congress passed an act granting public lands to the several States and Territories which might provide Colleges for the benefit of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts. Under this act thirty thousand acres for each of its Senators and Representatives in Congress were appropriated to every State, and, under this provision, the share of the State of New York was in land scrip representing nine hundred and ninety thousand acres. From the first, the State of New York determined to cease the policy of scattering its resources for advanced education, and to concentrate this fund in a single institution worthy of the Commonwealth. Acting upon this idea the Legislature first conditionally appropriated the whole amount of land scrip to another institution. The stipulations of the contract not having been fulfilled, the two houses, in 1865, following the same policy of concentration, transferred the entire proceeds of the land grant to the Cornell University upon its compliance with certain conditions, of which the most important were that Ezra Cornell should give to the Institution five hundred thousand dollars, and that provision should be made for education, free of all charge for tuition, of one student from each Assembly district of the State. At the first meeting of the

Trustees thereafter, Mr. Cornell fulfilled the requirements of the Charter. He then made the additional gift of over two hundred acres of land, with buildings, as a farm to be attached to the College of Agriculture, and of the Jewett collection in Geology and Palæontology—a collection which had cost him ten thousand dollars; and he has given, since that time, other gifts to the amount of thirty thousand dollars. Besides this, he has expended about two hundred thousand dollars in purchasing the land scrip and locating the lands for the University. The munificence of Mr. Cornell enabled the Trustees to create, in addition to the Colleges of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts founded in accordance with the provisions of the Congressional Act, eight other Colleges.

THE UNIVERSITY AND THE STATE.

The University is, under its Charter, an organic part of the educational system of the State. It owes to the considerate bounty of the State a large portion of its endowment; four of the State's highest civic officers are, by virtue of their position, Trustees of the institution; and the Legislature has in various acts—such as that which gave to its Museum of Geology all the duplicates of the State Cabinet—shown an enlightened regard for its interests. The University is bound by the terms of the act which created it, to educate, free of all fees for instruction, one student from each of the one hundred and twenty-eight Assembly districts of the State; and its managers, in deciding that this exemption from payment of the usual dues shall continue, in the case of each student, during four years, have given the most liberal construction to this obligation. These State Students are to be selected, by yearly competitive examina-

tions, from the various public schools and academies maintained by the people of New York. The method of their election is defined in the ninth paragraph of the Charter—the text of which will be found in the section devoted to State Students—and has been more fully set forth in special circulars and reports by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

UNIVERSITY FUNDS.

The endowment of the University consists of three distinct funds:—

First. The Founder's Fund of \$500,000, given by Ezra Cornell, which is invested in securities drawing seven per cent. interest, payable in May and November, providing an income of \$35,000 per annum. This fund is in the custody and under the control of the Trustees.

Second. The College Land Scrip Fund, arising from the sale of the college land scrip donated by an act of Congress approved July 2, 1862, to the State of New York, and by the Act of Incorporation creating the University, (Chapter 585 of the laws of 1865) the proceeds were given to the University, on condition that Ezra Cornell would give the University \$500,000. This fund, on the 30th of September, 1871, amounted to \$473,402.87, producing an income of \$29,474. This fund is in the custody of the Comptroller of the State by provision of the act of Congress donating the lands, and invested by him.

Third. The Cornell Endowment Fund. This fund is produced by Ezra Cornell from the profits arising from his purchase of the college land scrip, and the sale and location of the same, and from the sale of the lands. This fund is also in the custody of the State, by agreement with Ezra Cornell, and amounted on the 30th of

September, 1871. to \$128,596.61, producing an income of \$7,369.

RECAPITULATION.

Founder's Fund,	\$500,000 producing	\$35,000
College Land Scrip Fund	473,402.87	29,474
Cornell Endowment Fund	128,596.61	7,369
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$1,101,999.48	\$71,843

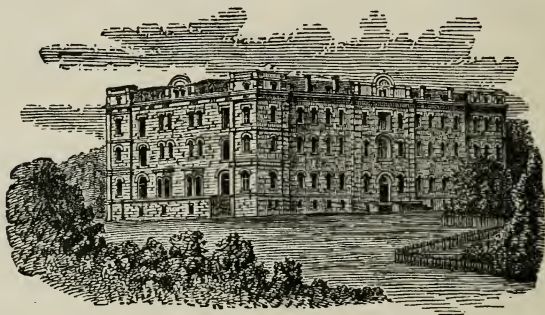
ESTATE AND BUILDINGS.

The estate attached immediately to the University consists of the farm and grounds, embracing more than two hundred acres of excellent land. This tract lies on an upland to the east of Ithaca, nearly four hundred feet above the surface of the Cayuga Lake. It overlooks the town and valley beyond it, and affords an uninterrupted view of the lake, with its lofty banks, for a distance of twenty miles. The estate is bounded on the north by Fall Creek, and on the south by the Cascadilla—two remarkably picturesque streams, running in deep rocky gorges, and presenting much peculiar and striking cascade scenery. Attached to the University farm are a farm-house—occupied by persons connected with the College of Agriculture—barns and other outbuildings. Besides these the structures in use for University purposes are the following:—

CASCADILLA PLACE.

This building takes its name from its situation on the bank of Cascadilla Creek, close to two of the most beautiful cascades on that stream. It lies nearest of all the University edifices to the village of Ithaca, which it overlooks on its east side, at an elevation of nearly three hundred feet. It is constructed of dark blue stone, with dressings of white stone, is three, or counting the high

basement and suites of rooms under the French roof, five stories in height, and one hundred and ninety-five feet long by one hundred wide. The number of rooms of all sizes exceeds two hundred. It was finished in



1868, and contains suites of apartments for the professors and their families, dormitories for students, a very large reception-room, two dining-halls, a Faculty-room, two lecture-rooms, various offices, kitchen, laundry, bath-rooms, etc. The reception-room is decorated with bronze statues, paintings and engravings. Among the offices situated here are those of the President of the University, the Registrar and the Military Commandant, and the general business office. Here, too, are the rooms in which the June and September entrance examinations are in part held. A post-office, receiving a morning and evening mail, and a telegraph-office, have been established at Cascadilla Place for the convenience of members of the University, and like the other University structures, it is connected with the village and with the railroad and steamboat stations by expresses and stages making several trips a day. The station of one of the railroads leading into Ithaca—the Ithaca and Cortland Railroad—stands less than two minutes' walk from

Ithaca & Athens Railroad,

AND CONNECTIONS.

Shortest Route Between Philadelphia and Buffalo!

MAGNIFICENT SCENERY ALL ALONG THE LINE!

This Road, recently completed and put into operation affords an easy access to Ithaca, and the grand and varied scenery for which it and the immediate vicinity have become so celebrated. In a visit of a few days or weeks the **Summer Tourist** and **Pleasure Seeker** never tires of the endless succession of

Water Fall, Rocky Gorge & Wild Glen,

which meets him at every turn of his daily rambles. Perhaps nowhere has Nature thrown together in so small a space so much of her own handiwork to interest and please.

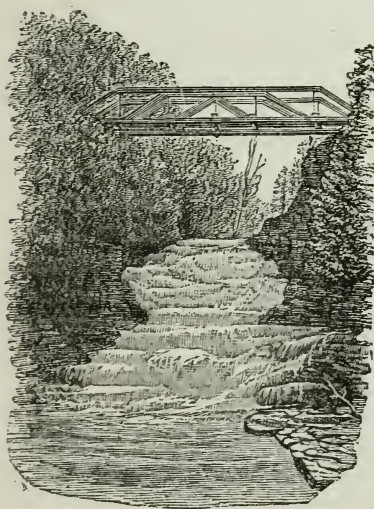
DIRECT CONNECTION IS MADE,

So that persons leaving **New York** by the **Central Railroad of New Jersey**, connecting with the **Lehigh Valley R. R.** at **Easton**, can reach **Ithaca** the same evening. Also persons leaving **Philadelphia** in the morning by the **North Penna. R. R.** and connecting with the **L. V. R. R.** at **Bethlehem**, will arrive at **Ithaca** the same evening. Starting from either city the traveler has the opportunity of viewing the **Scenery of the Lehigh Valley**, including a ride around the **Switch Back** at **Mauch Chunk**, and the unequalled view of the **Lackawanna** and **Wyoming Valleys**, in passing over the mountain at **Wilkesbarre**.

Connection on the North of Ithaca is made with **Steamers** on the **Cayuga Lake**, also with the **Cayuga Lake R. R.**, and the **New York Central R. R.** for **Niagara**, and all points **East** and **West**. Also with the **Ithaca & Geneva R. R.** for **Geneva**, and **Sodus Point** on **Lake Ontario** and with the **Utica, Ithaca & Elmira R. R.** for **Utica**, **Corning** and **Elmira**.

Cascadilla Place. In the rear of the building the ground has been terraced and planted up to the small body of water known as Willow Pond, from which the supplies for Cascadilla Place are drawn. Beyond the terraces a net work of pleasure walks has been laid out, embracing both sides of the glen and extending up the stream nearly a third of a mile, where a foot-bridge has been erected. To these paths the names of the various non-resident professors have been given, the whole being called "The Stroll." An artificial brook runs through these grounds, leading from the Cascadilla, above the uppermost fall, to Willow Pond. Between Cascadilla Place and the principal groups of buildings runs

THE UNIVERSITY ROAD.



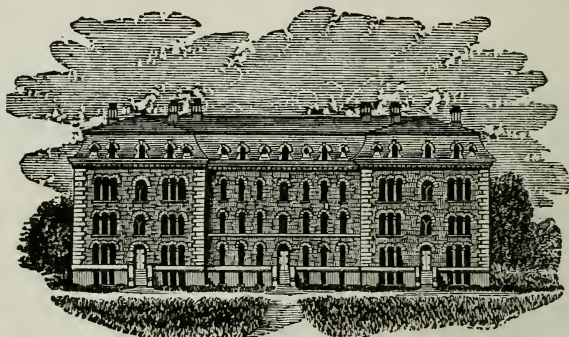
This drive, as well as the footpath which runs beside it, was constructed chiefly by student labor in the first year of the University. It crosses the Gorge of the Cascadilla by a bridge seventy feet above the bed of the stream, winds up through a pleasant grove, which is partially occupied by the walks mentioned in the preceding paragraph, and

then skirts the margin of the great hill which rises to the east of Ithaca—passing over the continuation of

Cornell street by a second bridge—until it reaches the cluster of University buildings proper at a distance of three-eighths of a mile from Cascadilla Place. The road affords many fine views, at first of the Cascadilla glen and afterwards of the Cayuga Lake and its broad valley. It enters the University campus on the South side.

THE SOUTH AND NORTH BUILDINGS.

These two edifices are architecturally alike, being each one hundred and sixty-five feet by fifty, three stories (or four floors) in height, of blue Ithaca stone, with light Medina dressings. Each is divided into four sections



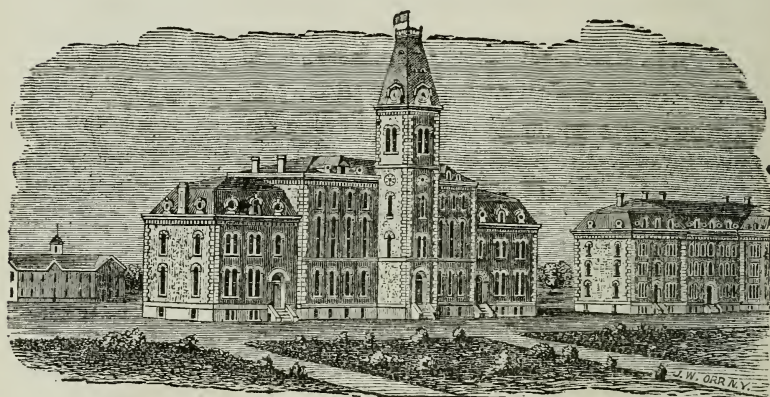
by three halls, running from front to rear. The main hall, as well as the lower stories of the others, is devoted to lecture-rooms, cabinets, library-rooms, reading-rooms, etc. The other halls contain, in each building, twenty-four sets of rooms for students, each set accommodating two or three persons. In the South building are six rooms in which the University Library is temporarily deposited the rooms in which are at present located the collection of anatomical and zoological specimens and models, the collection of plough models, the Greene

Smith Collection of birds, the geological and mineralogical cabinets, the cabinet of cereals, and a large lecture-room used for chapel services. The basement contains the anatomical and geological laboratories. The number of lecture-rooms is seven. In the North Building are the veterinary collections, the Horace Mann Herbarium, and the hall of the University Library Societies. It possesses eleven lecture-rooms, one of which will seat three hundred students, and all of which are furnished with benches and desks for the purpose of taking notes—these having been manufactured for the purpose—presented by a friend of the institution. Each set of dormitories in these structures comprises three rooms and three closets. Between the North and South Buildings stands the largest of the University edifices,

THE MCGRAW BUILDING.

This building, the generous gift of Mr. John McGraw, of Ithaca, is constructed, like the edifices around it, of the dark blue stone quarried on the University grounds, but with dressings and cornices of Onondaga gray limestone. In its architecture it also corresponds to its fellows—the style of the group throughout being an adaptation of the renaissance. Its length is two hundred feet and its depth sixty—while its tower rises to a height of over one hundred and twenty. It consists of a main edifice and two wings. The main or central portion of the building comprises one hall one hundred feet long, fifty-six wide and nineteen in height, and another above it of the same length and breadth, but over thirty feet high, the latter containing three galleries, each of an average height of twelve feet. In this part of the McGraw building will be placed in alcoves and galleries

on the lower floor the Library and on the second floor the various Museums of the University. In the north wing is the anatomical theatre, with ascending seats and all the necessary arrangements for experiments and lectures. Beneath this are three large lecture-rooms. In the south wing there is, besides two large lecture-rooms, a corresponding theatre for physical demonstrations.



The basement will afford room for half-a-dozen additional lecture-rooms. In the campanile, in the centre of the front of the McGraw building—a massive stone tower twenty-two feet square—are placed the University's Great Bell and the nine smaller bells of the McGraw chimes. From the upper or belfry arches of this campanile a view is obtained of the entire surface of Cayuga Lake—forty miles in length—and of the long deep valley which runs many miles to the southward of the lake, where it is bounded by the lofty hills which form a part of the "back bone of New York." The view includes several counties, and the courses of the many streams which uniting, compose the "Inlet" of Cayuga,

may be distinctly traced. The interior of the McGraw building is solidly finished in native woods. Its different parts are separated from each other by walls of brick and doors of iron, rendering them completely fire-proof. The exterior is wholly of stone and iron. The Library Hall will contain shelving for eighty thousand volumes. The galleries of the Museum Hall are fifteen feet deep with a total length of over six hundred feet.

By providing for the collections, it will give to other purposes many rooms in the other buildings, and thus greatly increase the facilities for instruction. Some distance to the east of it is the large temporary building of wood occupied by

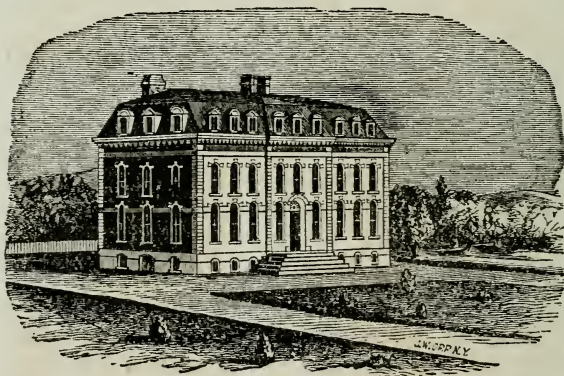
THE LABRATORIES.

With a front of one hundred feet and two wings, each of the same length, this structure contains, until the stone laboratories shall be erected, temporary apartments for several of the scientific departments of the University. Here are the three chemical laboratories, the weighing rooms, the chemical stock-room, the furnace-room, the assaying room, the agricultural laboratory, the draughting room and the lecture room of the school of civil engineering, and several other apartments. It is provided with water and gas. Its north wing is three stories in height, the rest being only two stories. Just beyond it to the north are the farm house, barns, stables, etc., attached to the College of Agriculture, while on the extreme north end of the University campus is

THE SIBLEY COLLEGE.

The sum requisite for the erection of this edifice is

the recent gift of one of the Trustees, Mr. Hiram Sibley, of Rochester. The foundations were laid in the autumn of 1870 and the building was completed during the past summer. It is of stone and of the same general character as the other University structures. Designed for the Sibley College of the Mechanic Arts, it affords accommodation to that department, and temporarily, to the department of botany. On the first floor are the machine shops and the modeling rooms and the office of the University Press. On the second floor are the studios and lecture-rooms of the professors of Industrial Mechanics

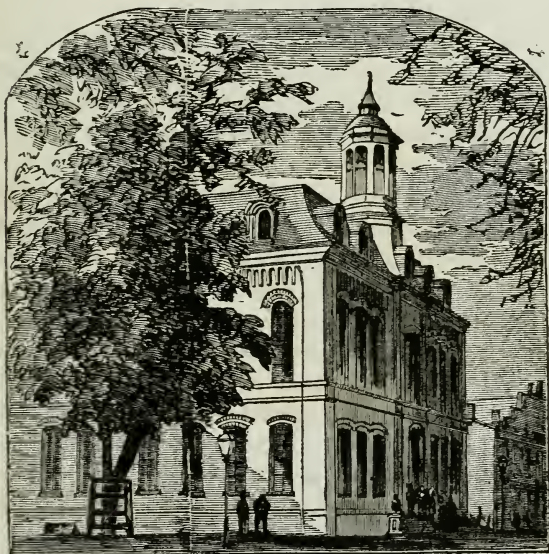


and Botany and the Mechanical Museum. On the third floor are the mechanical and architectural draughting-rooms and the Museum of Botany. A large wing on the north side of the building contains a brass foundry and engine-room. The Sibley College was formally opened on Wednesday, June twenty-first, by the Governor of the State and the authorities of the University. An address was delivered by Professor Daniel C. Gilman, of Yale College, and speeches were made by Governor

Hoffman, President White, Mr. Ezra Cornell, Mr. Erastus Brooks, Mr. Henry Wells, Mr. George H. Andrews, Mr. William Orton, Professor Atkinson, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and others.

THE CORNELL LIBRARY.

This building, the gift of Mr. Ezra Cornell to the town of Ithaca, is used by the University for its Commencement exercises, for the lectures of several of its



non-resident professors, and as a temporary deposit for several of its collections. On the fourth floor is the extensive University collection in Conchology. It contains a rapidly increasing circulating library of seven thousand volumes, to which the students of the Univer-

sity have free access, a free museum and a public lecture-hall. The rents of the office portion of the edifice are devoted to the increase of the library. It is situated in the business center of the village of Ithaca, at the corner of Tioga and Seneca streets. Its size is sixty-eight by one hundred feet.

RECENT GIFTS.

The value of the gifts which the University has received from private individuals since its opening in October, 1868, is estimated at nearly four hundred thousand dollars. These benefactions have taken the shape of buildings, books, apparatus, and money. The chief donors, besides the Founder, have been the following:—

Mr. Andrew D. White, the President of the University, who has devoted his salary to the support of poor students and to the establishment of various prizes; who has given to the University Library several thousand volumes of miscellaneous works and a collection known as “The White Architectural Library;” who has presented to the Museum of Botany “The Horace Mann Herbarium;” and who, besides the recent gifts mentioned in the following page, has expended sums amounting in the aggregate to more than ten thousand dollars in increasing the usefulness of various departments of the Institution.

Mr. William Kelly, of Rhinebeck, who has added to the University Library the extensive collection known as “The Kelly Mathematical Library.”

Mr. John McGraw, of Ithaca, who is now constructing the costly central building of the University, to be occupied by the Museum and Library.

Miss Jennie McGraw, of Ithaca, who gave to the Institution the nine bells which form the University Chimes, and which cost several thousand dollars.

Mr. Hiram Sibley, of Rochester, who, besides having given important donations to the University Library, has erected a large stone edifice for the use of the Sibley College of the Mechanic Arts, and has equipped it at a cost of ten thousand dollars.

Mr. Goldwin Smith, Professor in the University, to whom the University Library owes an admirable collection of four thousand volumes relating to English history and literature, and who, in addition to important gifts to the Museum of Geology, has, from the organization of the Institution, given to it his services as Professor of English History, for which he has steadily refused to accept any salary.

Mr. Greene Smith, of Geneva, who has bestowed upon the Museum of Zoology his costly collection of American birds and who is constantly increasing it.

Mrs. Andrew D. White, of Syracuse, to whom the University is indebted for its Great Bell, weighing five thousand pounds, and costing nearly three thousand dollars.

Mr. Stewart L. Woodford, lately Lieutenant-Governor of New York, who has founded an annual prize for elocution, consisting of a gold medal of the value of one hundred dollars.

The University is moreover under obligations to the British and French governments, to the State of New York, to the Universities of Oxford and Edinburgh, to the Messrs. R. Hoe & Co., and George Bruce's Son & Co., of New York, to the stockholders of the Cascadilla Company of Ithaca, to Professor George Rolleston, F. R. S. of Oxford, England, to Mr. Gerrit Smith, of Peter-

boro, New York, to Mr. E. W. Leavenworth, of Syracuse, New York, to Mr. R. R. Hayes, Governor of Ohio, and to many others for valuable donations.

Among the specially noteworthy gifts of the year 1870-71—besides the additional sums given from time to time by the Founder of the Institution—may be mentioned the following:—Mr. Hiram Sibley has expended ten thousand dollars in equipping with proper apparatus the Sibley College of the Mechanic Arts. To the College of Agriculture, Colonel Lewis G. Morris, of Scarsville, and Mr. Allen B. Benham have presented live stock of great value, while the same College is greatly indebted to a large number of manufacturers, in various parts of the country, for agricultural models and implements. For the Library the President of the University has continued his purchases of works on architecture, many of them of the most costly character, and Mr. William Kelly, of Rhinebeck, has made additional expenditures to increase the Kelly mathematical collection. Professor Goldwin Smith has caused to be made a useful collection of works relating to Canadian history, which he has presented to the University. The late Reverend Samuel J. May, of Syracuse, shortly before his death, bestowed upon the Library his large collection of books and pamphlets treating of slavery and the history of the anti-slavery movement in this country and in England, which has since been supplemented by two valuable collections of a similar character, one from Mr. Richard D. Webb, of Dublin, Ireland, and the other from Mrs. Elizabeth Pease Nichol, of Edinburgh, Scotland. Other gifts have also been received, as additions to the May collection, from Mr. Charles Francis Adams, the Reverend Adin Ballou, the Reverend Samuel May, jr., and many others. In consequence of a subscription raised

by William Burt, of Boston, the Library has been put in possession of a copy of Besler's "*Hortus Eystettensis*" (1613) being one of the three or four colored copies known to exist. The University Library has also been indebted, during the past year, to many institutions and societies both at home and abroad, as well as to many individual benefactors, for additions to its stores. To the art collection of the University President White has lately added full length oil portraits by Carpenter, of Professor Goldwin Smith and Professor George William Curtis. All the Museums, and especially those attached to the College of Natural History, have been considerably increased by the labors of both professors and students. The collections in zoology and comparative anatomy in particular, received from different parts of the United States of the United States, have been unusually numerous.

FACULTY.

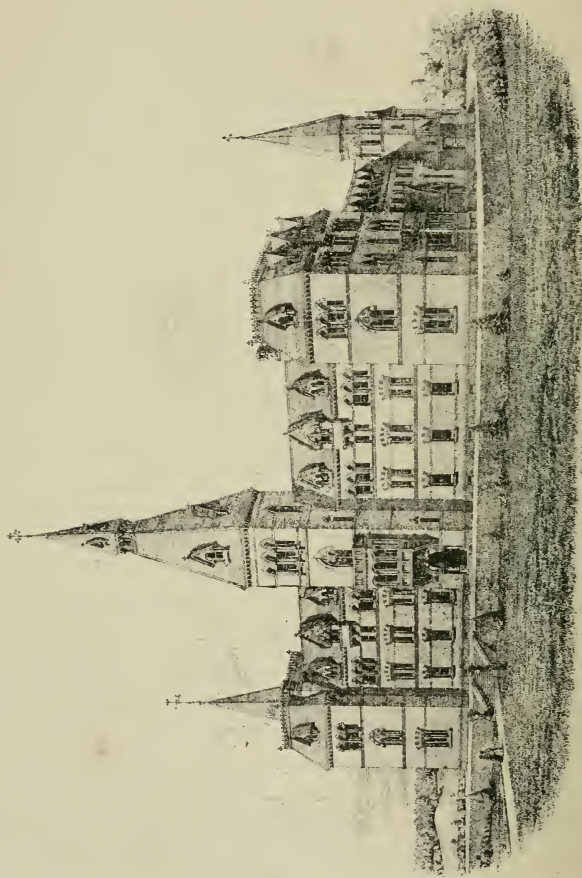
The Faculty is divided into resident and non-resident Professors. To the former are entrusted all measures of academic government; the supervision of the various courses of study; and such duties as generally appertain to an academic Senate. The resident Faculty comprises thirty-one professors, who are assisted by several special instructors. The non-resident Faculty consists of professors selected from among scholars of acknowledged eminence in particular branches of learning. They number, at present, eight, each of whom delivers a series of lectures occupying several weeks of each year. Those of Professors Agassiz, Bayard Taylor, Gould and Greene are given during the Winter Trimester; those of Professors Curtis, Lowell and Dwight, during the Spring

Trimester; while those of Professor Goldwin Smith occupy portions of each Trimester. The new chairs filled during the past year have been those of Agriculture, Architecture, and Rhetoric. The chair of the ancient languages has given place to two new professorships, that of Greek and that of Latin. A non-resident professorship of American History has also been established and filled. The additional chairs to be founded at the earliest possible moment are those of Political Economy, Physical Geography, Comparative Philology and Drawing.

GENERAL AIMS.

The scope of the University is sharply defined in the very method of its inception. It may be thus stated: 1. The University owes it to the United States Government that a due development and prominence be given to the departments of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, and that ample opportunity be afforded for instruction in Military Science,—doing this, in the language of the Act of Endowment, “Without excluding other scientific and classical studies.” 2. The University owes it to the State of New York that, like other State educational institutions, it be non-sectarian and non-political, and that it admit to its privileges all sons of the commonwealth capable of availing themselves of its instruction. 3. The University owes it to Mr. Cornell, whose gift was bestowed for the purpose of rounding the Institution into the proportions of a true high school of learning, that it endeavor to realize the wish expressed in his words—“*I would found an institution where any person can find instruction in any study*”—words which plainly and tersely express the whole University theory.





The Sugar College of the Carmel Convent Havana N. G.

Engr. Chas. B. Wood. Engraver.

THE SAGE COLLEGE.

This department for the use of females, students of Cornell University, owes its origin to the generosity of Henry W. Sage, of Brooklyn, N. Y., a former resident of Ithaca. The question of the co-education of the sexes is one that has for many years agitated the minds of our best thinkers and advanced public sentiment appears to be in favor of it, and Mr. Sage is willing to stake much in giving at "Cornell," the most advanced of our great Universities, a thorough trial of it. For this purpose he has donated \$250,000, \$150,000 for a College building and \$100,000 towards the Endowment fund of the University. The building is now (1872) in process of erection, and is intended as a thoroughly comfortable and elegant home for Lady Students, and so far as can be judged from the drawings, will be altogether the most picturesque of the noble group of buildings that crown this beautiful East Hill. The material of which it is building is best quality of pressed buff brick, and Nova Scotia Gray and New Jersey Buff Stone dressings, and the style of architecture the old Italian Gothic, thus differing from the rest of the group, which are in the Florentine style and which compel admiration by their extent and massive grandeur, rather than by any grace of outline. It is to be quadrangular in form, one hundred and sixty-eight feet front, forty-one feet deep and four stories in height. The north wing will be eighty-five feet long, and the south wing, 112. The Gymnasium nearly connects the wings in the rear. The rooms for students are two each, 18x14, study and bed-room, and the building is designed to accommodate about 100 pupils, and will be completed in the Spring of 1874. Besides the dormitories for the pupils it will contain Lec-

ture and Recitation Rooms, a Museum, Laboratories for Students in Botany, with Green Houses, Forcing Houses and other necessary facilities for the pursuit of floriculture and ornamental gardening. The College was designed by Professor Babcock, of Cornell University, and is being built under his supervision.

THE SAGE CHAPEL.

Supplementing his noble gift of \$250,000, Mr. Sage has this season made a donation of \$30,000 to be expended in building a chapel for the use of the University and for which drawings are now preparing. It is to be built of stone, in the old English Gothic style, and will be located on the campus midway between the Sage College and the south dormitory building. It will have seating room for about five hundred, but the plans are so arranged that when necessary the building can be enlarged by the addition of a transept and aisle thus giving a vast amount of room and adding to the beauty of the structure. Very lately another friend of the University donated \$30,000, the income from which is to be devoted to procuring the best pulpit talent in the country, regardless of creed or denomination.

THE GORGE.

Thunder on, far-famed Niagara,
I would not one jot remove
From thine all-entrancing grandeur,
Soul-exalting gift of Love.

Minne-ha-ha, favored fair one—
Laugh thy laugh thro' endless days,
Of thy lovers I would win none,
Still let poets sing thy praise.

Yet Niagara—Minne-ha-ha—
Ye may not unrivalled be,
In this land so fraught with beauty,
Rich in Heaven-wrought tracery.

Home of "Cornell,"—vale sequestered—
Few have known thy charms 'till now,
Seen the gems of brilliant radiance,
Sparkling on thy lovely brow.

Not the least of thy fair treasures,
Is the one so long concealed,
Pass within the deep Gorge yonder,
Fairest pictures stand revealed.

Silvery waterfalls and lakelets,
Towering rocks and sylvan grove,
Where can daintier feast await you,
You who God and Nature love?

Art so deftly joined with Nature,
Leads by an enchanted way,
To the classic halls of learning,
Where proud Science holds her sway.

Hie who will to distant Edens,
Mid more noted scenes to roam.
Give me these unwritten beauties,
In the land of Home, Sweet Home.

L. T. J.

ITHACA, Dec. 1872.

ITHACA AND THE GORGE.

[From The Rochester Express, Sept. 20, 1872.]

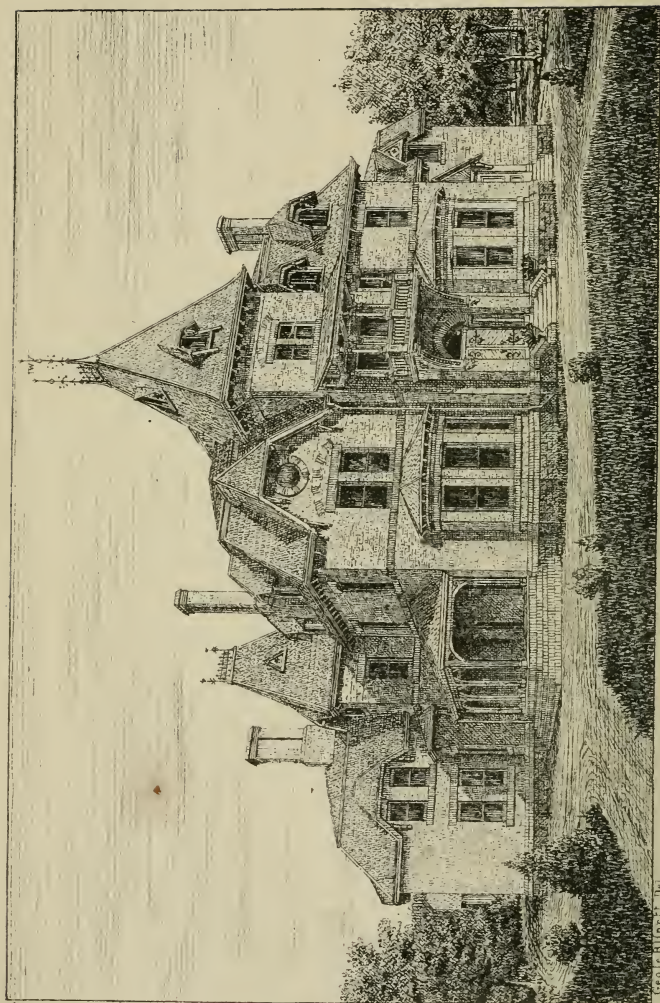
A short ride on the New York Central Railroad, one pleasant morning a few days since, and we were at Cayuga, 67 miles from Rochester—here we found a neatly furnished steamer ready to take us up Cayuga Lake. On board the steamer we had every comfort we could desire, and the ride was so quiet and the scenery so beautiful that it seemed almost unreal, something as we might imagine it to be in fairyland, where every sight and sound and motion produces peaceful pleasures.

Pretty villages dot the coast on either shore—first this side and then that, we touch the bank to leave or to receive passengers. The narrow waters—from three to five miles wide—are crossed and re-crossed many times during the forty miles passage to Ithaca.

The land rises up quickly from the lake to a height of three hundred or five hundred feet in a distance of one to three miles, thus affording fine sites for residences all along the shores.

Two new railroads will soon be opened to connect with the Central, one running along the east bank of the Lake, a few feet from the water level, from Ithaca to Cayuga, and the other traversing Seneca county diagonally from Ithaca to Geneva.





RESIDENCE of HON. A. D. WHITE . PRESIDENT of CORNELL UNIVERSITY ITHACA N. Y.

Ithaca, situated at the head of the Lake, partly in the valley and partly on the hillsides, in semi-circular form, is a little gem of beauty—the streets are broad and clean and lined with shade trees, the lots are large and many of them tastefully planted. A general air of neatness, prosperity and refinement is presented by the dwellings, while very many of the residences indicate the wealth which their occupants are very correctly reputed to possess.

Under the influence of that young giant insitution of learning, Cornell University, Ithaca is starting up into a new and noble life—every interest feels the quickening and its growing population will soon outnumber the ten thousand of which it is now composed. Lying in the center of a country of almost boundless fertility, with the facilities it has for obtaining cheap coal direct from the Pennsylvania mines, and in quick communication with all parts of the country, this place must soon become important for its manufactures. Already it is developing largely in this way.

We might here mention some pleasant items of persons and things. We might tell how we found Mr. Cornell, the millionaire, setting on example of useful industry by personally assisting in fitting up Domestic Hall on the Fair grounds for the county show. We might describe the fine, free public library and building, or speak of the churches and squares and drives; of the magnificent buildings of Cornell University and of its professors and seven or eight hundred students; of the new large college now erecting for ladies in attendance at the University, of the fine residence now nearly completed of President White, costing \$50,000, and built by himself and presented to the University. We might describe the new building for the residence of Ezra Cor-

nell, constructed of gray stone and granite, beautifully ornamented with fine carvings, forming one of the most exquisite specimens of gothic architecture to be found on this side of the Atlantic—but naming all these interesting topics, we wish to call the attention of all lovers of the beautiful in nature to the attractions of the Ithaca Gorge.

We will add, in passing, that the far-famed Taughanock Falls, 215 feet in height, in a gorge 400 feet in depth, is only ten miles from Ithaca, and the steamer will land you almost at the foot of the gorge.

We can do no better in describing the Ithaca Gorge than to copy the following article written by "Sentinel" for the *New York World* of June 17, 1872:

"Do not let us make a fatigue of our pleasure is the Sybaritic idea which so pleasantly finds its fostering in smooth rides and easy drives. No Alpine club and its break-neck followers surprise the quiet luxury by their accumulation upon their innocent selves of danger born of their daring. We admire but do not imitate. A railroad up Mount Washington is symbolic of an idea of winning without suffering, and if we could see the Northern wilderness as we do the sierras of the West, through plate glass, we might give the life of the tourist to the depths of the forest. I found at Ithaca, a few days since, the combination of the strong, severe, savage boldness of a wild gorge at the verge of a life busy in the pleasant incidents of the man of industry, of traffic, and of letters. Right north of the active streets of Ithaca, a brief way only from its delightful little library, and scarcely separated from its lines of dwellings, is a small manufacturing suburb, even yet known by its simple water name of Fall Creek. Work in various directions of industry seeks the power of the stream and finds it in a strength that gives stability to the enterprises. Right here it is just as practical as any men could desire. Wheels and saws and noise and dust move for all plain

purposes of thrift, while around and above them the stronger sister of Tennyson's brook "flows on forever."

Here the stream works—good, active, satisfactory labor—never disturbed by counting the hours of its day's work, perhaps sometimes making common cause with the summer sun or zero's cold to trouble flume or wheel, but flowing on again gladly and generously, willing to pour as powerfully on whatever inventive hand presents to it as may be, seeking only the shortest way to rest and the Cayuga—to win a quiet look at sun and moon and stars on the broad lake, as the strong man fights so well the battle of life for the long furlough at the end. We leave this group of toil, and at the new iron bridge, now in process of construction, find before us a bold, glittering, dashing cataract—may I not call a fall of one hundred and sixty feet by such word of power? It has spared of its strength to be the slave of the wheel, but it goes so joyously and beautifully over its grand leap that one might fancy it knew it was to regain all it had lost before it reached the lake, as indeed it does, for what was brought to it through a tunnel cut through the rock—at the date of its making a local triumph of engineering—rushes again to the stream, and Fall Creek's long and vexed journey all the way from Cortland County to the Cayuga is complete. The State has not forgotten to spend some money upon it. It seldom does forget these things, in the prompting of that legislative ingenuity which so largely extends the area of a "paternal government."

"This superb fall is the Cayuga's gateway to the Gorge. It is a jealous warder, throwing its wide wall across the wild chasm, and heretofore the view of the wildly beautiful scenery of which this is such vivid preface was such as might be glimpsed by steady heads, masters of the situation, as best they could compass it between the incidents of forest trees and such vantage as one could trust in a rather careless credulity along the high margin. As I have a much tougher story to relate hereafter, I may wisely relate here the mildest one, coming thus to my cautious readers with a gentle parallel. A long way up this stream, on the south side, there is a flat table-

like crag quite near the edge, from which a young lady fell, seventy-five feet into the water below. She was neither demolished nor drowned; but with superb fidelity to the instincts of true woman gathered herself up and—fixed her hair! This was years ago. Since then a gentleman who knew of this strange episode in her life heard that she had died, and mentioned it. "Not so," said his friend, "I have danced with her many a time since her tumble." I would win my readers, as modern writers do in a serial, to read on; for this story, true as it is, is faintly colored compared to that I have presently to relate in this narrative of this wild and beautiful land of our State.

"For a long series of years this grand scenery, occasionally visited, was neglected by art. Ithaca owed it to itself to open, explore, and make available; but that duty was not fulfilled until Mr. William G. Johnson brought at once his taste and his energy to direct and compass the work. He consulted Mr. Cornell and some others. He found intelligent friendship. He found apathy and discouragement. Some could not, and others would not, see it. It is but the old, old history of one man, or a few men, trying to benefit, beautify, and enrich a locality, because their sagacity has seen the end from the beginning, and yet finding a cold shoulder where they ought to have met a warm, strong hand. Mr. Johnson went on, and the work of making this grand gorge available for tourist and traveler was done; and to-day it is of such beauty as that it might well be the place to visit which tourist and traveler might make special plan and purpose. Ever since it has been a work accomplished Mr. Johnson has had peculiar disturbance; but Ithaca is a young city of rising culture and advancing wealth, and I take it the law administered by the police will soon cause vandalism to understand that the sheriff "still lives."

"These are but temporary, minor incidents. The gorge is the hidden, strange enjoyment of a leaf out of Switzerland almost in the streets of the town. We come by the hillside entrance, and the walk for a steady foot and a keen eye is before us.

"The path has been built at the north side of the stream, surmounting or circuiting whatever difficulties these great walls of rock presented, and they indeed refused to give up their old, sullen, solitary seclusion without teaching the engineer that they held fierce possession. It is a chamois path. You need care and caution. There are guards and assistance by iron rail; there are seats for the weary. Here the way broadens, and we come to our companionship as we do on the highway, but the commonplace does not last long. The journey, our traditions of history, even not yet utterly faded out, have taught us to designate as by Indian file, must thus be taken; yet do not grow weary. Rest by frequent study of the massive walls, the rushing river, the forest, the severed crag, the strata's defined masonry, the steep above and beneath, the vista of some long defile of the stream, and take the full enjoyment, just quickened keenly by the possibility of peril, and in this grandeur confess that the gorge is a new volume of strange beauty given to the traveler's library.

"Rising beyond the first great fall—noticing where some of the stream's power rushes off to the artisan—another fall is in sight, less in power, but belonging to the series of cascades which, one after the other, like a silver stairway, mount this height—these upper falls taking their full holiday of play without work—and crowding within this grand gorge so much of that order of beauty, the countless forms of loveliness which falling water sad in the shadows or laughing in the sun does so winningly present. What magnificence would not such a mile of movement add to the glories of the garden land of Chatsworth!

"Even Mr. Johnson's energy could not wind this path directly in the very line of the water. These formidable crags must be eluded, and the engineering take, as strategy of war is sometimes compelled to do, a flank movement—up and around—around a very ugly looking corner indeed. And here my other strain on my reader's belief must be made. I can scarcely ask the belief of any but my old readers of *THE WORLD ab initio*, and of the *Courier and Enquirer*, who have learned to trust

me. Look over this steep. It is high unto two hundred feet down. Here in August, 1869, a workman, John Johnson, while loosing a fragment with his crow-bar, like Emerson's builder, did, if not better, more than he knew. He loosened himself, and over and down this terrible height away went iron bar and mortal man. Two hundred feet! He could scarcely have been worth the serious attention of the coroner. That man made that awful fall and—picked himself up! Remembered of what he had thought as he was falling. How he wondered why the iron which he heard ringing as it struck did not strike him. Thought of his hat! Yes, he gathered himself by himself, found his injuries minor, and is to-day a working-man. Knowing where he fell I am not encouraged to recommend imitation of his example. Men are immortal till the appropriate hour.

"I followed this path in all its grandeur, in all its beauty, and still the flowing water went wildly over the heights or made gentler current between its fury. I saw the wooded sides, the little islands, the stately battlements, and with all this could call to mind that this grandeur was at the door of the life of the busy day. It is like a volume of weird and gloomy romance bound up in a gay library, and there is enjoyment in the quick contrast of the same morning in street and in glen.

"Gentle Will" talked, and the ages have listened, of the dizzy height midst which the samphire-gatherer plied his dreadful trade. It would be kindly to talk to one's self of Dover cliff and its memories while we follow our midway route in these cliffs. Not the sounding sea but the "talking water" is beneath us, the science of the earth in its changes before us. Careful to look where we go and to see all as we go, the passage through the gorge is accomplished. We need not return as we came. It is of the felicities of this adventure that the return can be made by the other chapter of life's work. A brief hour walk, and the great campus of the university is reached, and as I saw it in their pleasant dress of blue and graceful hat, the body of students were in battalion review; for Cornell recognizes its obligations to the general government for that munificent gift of land

to New York, its endowment, and brings military order within its studies. The Adjutant-General, Franklin Townsend, General Stonehouse, General Barto, and others, with President White, were witnessing the review. The chimes from the great tower of McGraw Hall rang out from their far height over lake and valley and the fair town beneath, and the grandeur of the gorge had melted into the soft influences "of fair women and brave men."

"And now, whoever wishes to add a pleasant chapter to his summer tour must test my delineation of the Gorge at Ithaca. I shall have won his gratitude by pointing him to a new pleasure.

SENTINEL."

ACCESS TO ITHACA.

At this time, (Dec., 1872,) from the south-east, via Erie Railway to Owego, and thence to Ithaca by the Cayuga Division of the D. L. & W. R. R. From the south, say Baltimore and Philadelphia, by Lehigh Valley R. R. to Athens, Pa., and thence to Ithaca via Ithaca & Athens R. R. From the west via Erie Railway to Waverly, and thence via Ithaca & Athens R. R.; or to Owego, and thence via D. L. & W. R. R.

From the north-east and north-west via N. Y. C. R. R. to Cayuga, and thence by the thoroughly commodious Cayuga Lake steamers, or to Auburn, and thence via Southern Central R. R. to Freeville Junction, and thence via Utica, Ithaca & Elmira R. R., or to Syracuse, and thence to Cortland,

If the weather is pleasant, a sail over the waters of Cayuga Lake will be most enjoyable, as it is the most

beautiful of all our inland lakes. That part of Cayuga Co., bordering on the Lake is fair to look upon, while the towns of Union Spas and Aurora, are very beautiful. There are few pictures in our memory more pleasing than Aurora, with its well kept grounds and tasteful houses, and having for an axis the buildings and grounds of Well's College. That portion of Seneca Co. between Lakes Cayuga and Seneca, and the northern half of Tompkins Co. between the same Lakes, is, all things considered the garden of New York. About eighteen miles from Ithaca, on the west bank of the Cayuga is Kidder's Ferry, the "Long Branch" of Ithaca, which is growing in favor abroad. All of Seneca Co. is fine as an agricultural district, in our judgment the finest in the State, indeed it appears to be without objection. The land a strong, clay loam, rises gradually from the margin of fair Cayuga, in no place assuming the character of hills, rolls gradually and beautifully for about eighteen miles, sinking as softly into the no less beautiful Lake Seneca. In all this fair country, lying between the Lakes, there is scarce a rod of swamp or low land, so that if there is a region in this latitude that is healthy, it is this. The one objection has been a want of communication with the outer world. This want is being met and next season in addition to the Boats, that now ply on Lakes Cayuga and Seneca, there will be two railroads through Seneca Co. the Ithaca & Geneva, and Pa. & Sodus Bay, while on the east side of the county, across the lake is the Cayuga Lake R. R., with which there is communication at frequent points by Ferry. At Kidder's Ferry, a company of gentlemen have bought a large tract of this beautiful country, and by a liberal outlay of money are adding to the attractions of this region. Among other improvements, a broad drive is

being constructed along the lake shore, at a point just far enough removed from it, to command the most charming views of lake country, and the mountainous region up around Ithaca. There are some lovely homes here, and others to be created. Last season parties in New York allured by the healthfulness and beauty of this region—purchased land here—and are to make it a summer residence. As we approach Ithaca the banks of the lake grow more abrupt while near Trumansburg Landing and at Taghanic, there is an air of grandeur in the scenery. As we round Crowbar Point, and come in sight of the amphitheatre, in which Ithaca is built, a very fine picture strikes the eye. Crowning the hill at our left are the imposing buildings of Cornell University, placed just where good taste would erect them, a remarkable example of success, where in so many instances, the very wealth of architecture is left to lose itself in seclusion.

Six months from this time a railroad will be constructed from Ithaca to Geneva, and the Cayuga Lake R. R. from Ithaca to Cayuga. In addition to the above the Utica, Ithaca & Elmira R. R. will be completed in the same time making Ithaca literally the “Hub” of New York State.

A most attractive route for tourists, say from Philadelphia, is to leave that city via. the Lehigh Valley R. R., passing up through the “Switzerland of America,” the country around Mauch Chunk, stopping off for a day at that place to view the wonders of the “Switch-back,” and to ascend “Mount Pisgah,” passing on north through the beautiful Wyoming Valley, famed in history and poetry, stopping off it may be for a day or two at Wilkes Barre, where there is one of the best kept hotels in the State of Pennsylvania, (Wyoming House),

thence north through the Susquehanna Valley, and crossing the Erie Railway, via. Ithaca & Athens R. R., at Waverly, from whence a two hours' ride will bring you to Ithaca, where many days can be spent with profit and pleasure. Leaving Ithaca the tourist can proceed north via. Cayuga Lake R. R., built all the distance to Cayuga (40 miles) on the bank of the beautiful Cayuga Lake, thence to Geneva, via. N. Y. C. R. R., and up Seneca Lake (40 miles) to Watkins, famed for its wonderful glen, or go from Ithaca to Geneva via. Ithaca & Geneva R. R., stopping over a train at Taghannock, ten miles from Ithaca, to see the highest, and in some respects, the most enjoyable waterfall in New York State. The ride from Ithaca to Geneva will be satisfactory to all who love to view a fair land, as it passes through the garden of the State, in its high cultivation, reminding the tourist more of portions of England, than any other part of America. From Watkins the tourist will soon arrive at Elmira, a thriving city and with many attractions, leaving which and continuing south on the Northern Central R. R., we arrive at Williamsport, Pa., where at the commodious and elegant "Heardick House" days can be passed in thorough enjoyment, and the way from this point to Philadelphia is clear. Or passengers can leave New York via. N. J. C. or Morris & Essex R. R., staying over a day at Easton, Pa., to view the buildings and grounds of La Fayette College and other attractions of the place. Take it all in all we do not think of any other circuit, where in the same distance, for the time and money, so much beautiful scenery and so many objects of interest can be seen.

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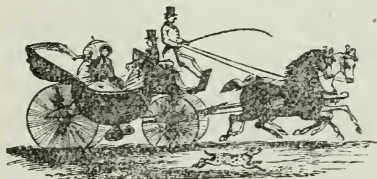
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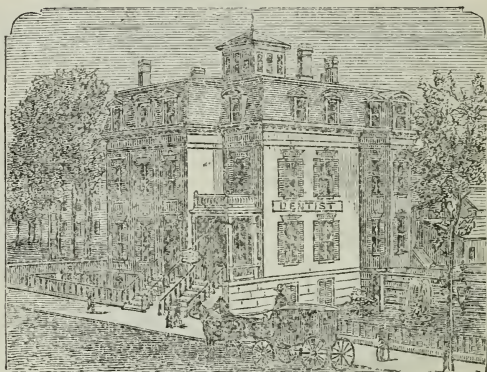
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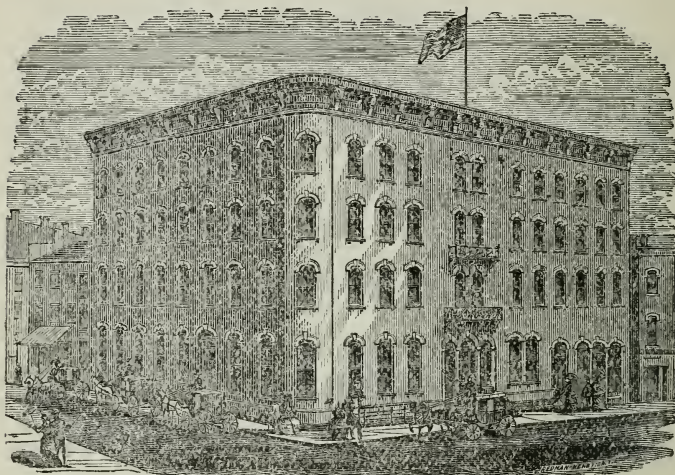
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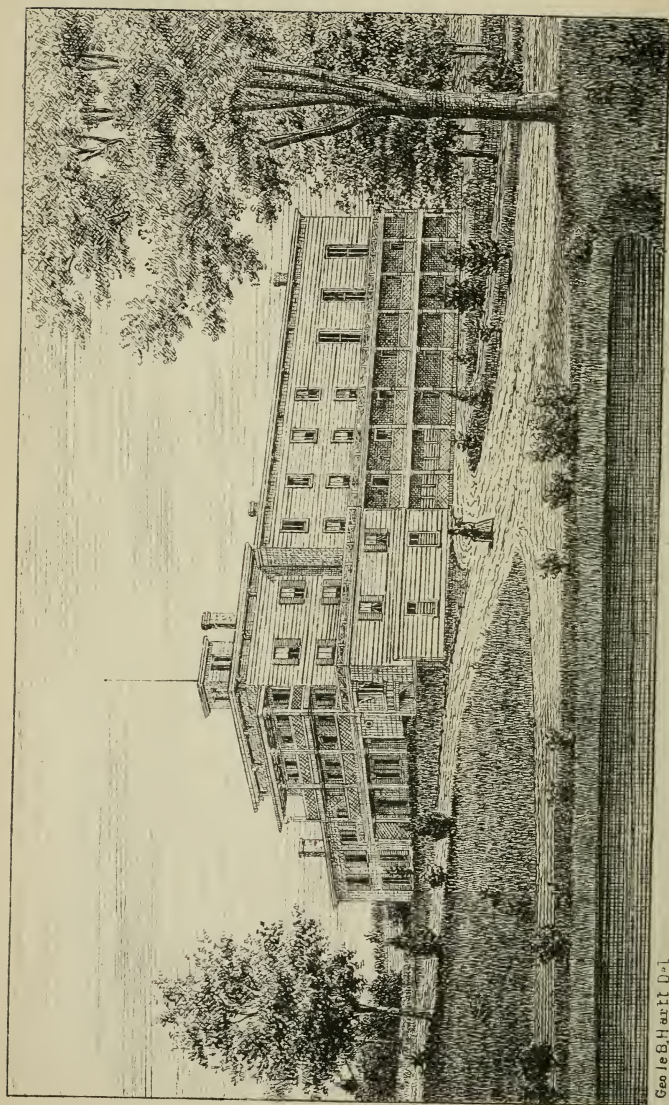
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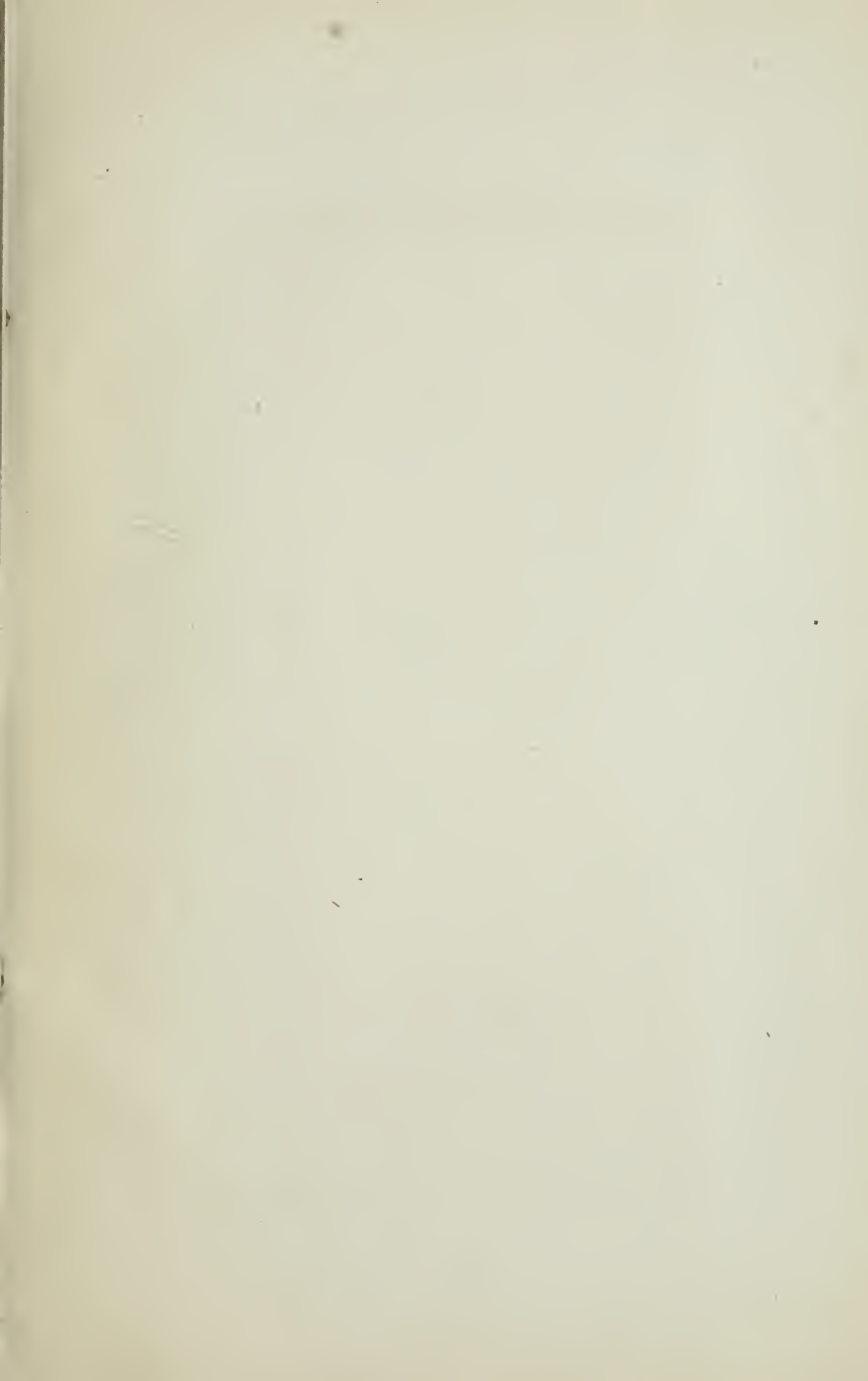
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